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LITERATURE

The Constitutional History of England in its Origin and Development. By William Stubbs, M.A. Vol. I. (Clarendon Press.) Ir might have puzzled Mr. Austin, though he thought it his chief vocation to untie knots of the sort, to furnish an adequate definition of constitutional history. His definition of constitutional law relates only to the constitution of the supreme government; but no account of the polity of a country is complete which does not treat of local as well as imperial in-stitutions, of subordinate as well as supreme government. Mr. Stubbs has, probably, done wisely in binding himself to no preliminary definition of the boundaries of his subject, and leaving them to mark themselves as he traces the evolution of the English constitution from its germinal elements. "The great characteristic," he observes, "of the English constitutional system is the continuous development of representative institutions from the first elementary stage in which they are employed for local purposes, and in the simplest form, to that in which the national parliament appears as the concentration of all local and provincial machinery, the depository of the collective powers of the three estates of the realm." Hereditary institutions also, however, occupy a considerable place in Mr. Stubbs's history. And, notwithstanding the concentration of powers in parliament, the English constitution even of the present day would be essentially altered by the absorption by the central state of all powers of local government.
One of the most interesting and instructive lessons in constitutional history is to be learned from the continuity of the existence down to our own time of the township, "the unit of the constitutional machinery" of the Anglo-Saxon polity, and it has been nowhere so well taught as by Mr. Stubbs in the present work.

The central and dominant idea of the book may be said to be that English constitutional history is the history of an evolution, and an evolution mainly from Teutonic elements. One phrase on the subject, employed by Mr. Stubbs in his 'Select Charters,' recurs in this volume, namely, that "the German element is the paternal element in the English polity." At first sight, this language might seem to indicate the admission of a non-German maternal element; and, according to the opinion of some, the maternal element is the more powerful factor. But, neither in blood nor in institution does Mr. Stubbs trace anything English either to British or to Roman sources. It would seem that the term paternal, in the sentence of the present volume referred to, is used in the general sense of parental, and in reference to the German fatherland, which, in the next sentence, is expressly named in the words: "The chain of proof is to be found in the progressive persistent develop-ment of English constitutional history from the primeval polity of the common fatherland." His dominant idea on this point leads Mr. Stubbs to underrate, we think, some non-German influences, and, for example, to attach scarcely sufficient importance to the part of the church or the clergy in shaping the English polity and institutions during the centuries between the introduction of Christianity and the Norman Conquest.

The opening words of the volume describe the growth of the English constitution as "the resultant of three forces: the national character, the external history, and the institu-tions of the people." Of early national character, however, not much is said in the work. Mr. Stubbs cites the famous descriptions which Cæsar and Tacitus have left of the manners of the Germans, but we see in those descriptions the character rather of a particular social stage than of a particular nation. Mr. Hallam affirms—we do not gather from the present work that Mr. Stubbs would disagree with him-that "no people were so much addicted to robbery, to riotous frays, and to feuds arising out of family revenge, as the Anglo-Saxons." The contrast of such a temper and state of manners with the present peaceable and placable character of the English nation, is enough to warn us against tracing to original or inherent tendencies of race traits which may be either only characteristics of a social stage, or consequences of special surrounding conditions. Mr. Stubbs himself observes, that "the national character has been formed by the course of national history quite as certainly as the national history has been developed by the working of the national character." influence of historical events appears to us to be much more perceptible than that of national character in the volume. The first event in English history, the conquest of Britain, produced an important change in the institutions of the settlers. "It produced royalty and the important political appurtenances of royalty. The Saxons had no kings at home, but they create kingdoms in Britain." The Witenagemot, or assembly of the wise, was, in the view of Mr. Stubbs, a consequence of the institution of royalty. He does not, like Mr. Freeman, regard it as originally a national assembly, or gemôt of the whole body of freemen :-

men:—

"The council of the aggregate state is not a folkmoot, but a witenagemot. On great occasions, coronations and the like, or on the sudden emergency of a Danish invasion, or for the reception of Canute's promulgation of Edgar's laws, we must understand the witenagemot to have been attended by a concourse of people whose voices could be raised in applause, or in resistance to the proposals of the chiefs. But that such gatherings shared in any way the constitutional powers of the witan, that they were organized in any way corresponding to the machinery of the folkmoot, that they had any representative character in the modern sense, that they shared the judicial work, or except by applause and hooting influenced in any way the decision of the chiefs, there is no evidence whatever."

It is to the institution of judicial circuits on one hand, and to that of juries on the other, that Mr. Stubbs mainly traces the origin of parliament as a representative assembly. On the first point, he observes:—

"The provincial judicature was brought into immediate connexion with the central judicature by journeys of the king's judges. The justices, whilst employed in provincial work, sat in the shire-moot; and this usage of Henry the First, with the series of similar measures initiated by Henry the Second, forms the link between the old and new organizations of the country, by which that concentration of local machinery was produced out of which the representative system arose. The parliament of the thirteenth century was the con-

centration of local representation in and with the national council. It was no small step in that direction when the action of the Curia Regis was brought into direct connexion with that of the shiremost. The Norman curia met the Anglo-Saxon gemot in the visitations of the itinerant justices."

On the second point, also, we will let the learned author speak for himself:—

"It is in the new system of recognitions, assizes, and presentments by jury that we find the most distinct traces of the growth of the principle of representation; and this in three ways. In the first place, the institution of the jury was itself based on a representative idea: the jurors, to whatever fact, or in whatever capacity, they swore, declared the report of the community as to the fact in question. In the second place, the method of inquest was in England brought into close connexion with the procedure of the shire-moot, and thus the inquisitorial process was from the moment of its introduction carried on in association with the previously existing representative institutions, such as were the reeve and four best men, the twelve senior thegns. In the third place, the particular expedients adopted for the regulation of the inquests paved the way in a remarkable manner for the system of county representation in the parliament. The use of election and representation in the courts of law furnished a precedent for the representation of the county by two sworn knights in the national council."

Mr. Stubbe's 'Select Charters' will have prepared his readers both for the leading views developed in the present volume, which ends with Magna Carta, and for the sagacity, care and accurate scholarship with which they are developed. The connexion between the ancient township and the manor on the one hand, and the parish on the other, is one of the subjects of great interest luminously expounded, and one respecting which Sir Henry Maine's 'Village Communities' and Mr. Freeman's 'Comparative Politics' have combined to excite curiosity.

There are, however, some points on which, were this a fitting opportunity, we should venture to dissent more or less from the views put forward by Mr. Stubbs. A good deal, for ex-ample, might be said in modification, if not in refutation, of the statement (p. 427) respecting the villein, that "when he comes before us in the reign of Richard the Second, his condition is one which suggests that the three centuries that have elapsed since the Conquest have been for him centuries of continuous decline." We might, again, give reason for entering a protest against the statement that "as the lawyers grew more powerful as a class, the theory of royalty approached more closely to absolutism"; a reproach against the lawyers made in still stronger terms in the author's 'Select Charters,' and one which we think we could show to be unmerited by that profession, grievous as have been some of its sins. A slight inaccuracy, we may add, is noticeable in Mr. Stubbs's reference to the fines and compensations for offences among the Germans of the age of Tacitus, which he speaks of as a system of money fines and money compensations. The Germans generally had not then reached the stage of money exchanges; their payments and fines were in cattle and horses; and the pecuniary wergild in the Anglo-Saxon laws marks a considerable economic advancement. It may also be suggested that the great change in the laws of succession which followed the Conquest ought hardly to have been passed over in complete silence. Tocqueville expressed his

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astonishment that publicists, ancient and modern, had paid so little attention to the laws of succession, which, in his view, ought to be put at the head of all political institutions. Such changes as the establishment of primogeniture and the extinction of the testamentary power as regards land, might surely claim notice in a history of the constitution. One other omission, which seems to us yet more to call for some protest, is that not a word is said in the book with respect to the place of women within or without the pale of the constitution. The Anglo-Saxon and the Norman queens are, indeed, spoken of as occupying an important position, but nothing is said of women of a lower rank. Is it on the ground that they had no constitutional rights or duties? That would hardly be true of ladies who held baronies or manors, or of the wives of absent and the mothers of infant lords. But even the general mass of women ought not to be ignored altogether in constitutional history; if only in reference to their disabilities and the ground of those disabilities, they ought, it appears to us, to be specially mentioned. The villein was without political rights, yet Mr. Stubbs takes note of his legal and economic condition. second volume of the work may, we hope, find a place for women below the rank of royalty. In any case, however, it will, we doubt not, like the first, earn for its author the gratitude and admiration of all students of English history.

FRENCH COURT LIFE.

Reminiscences of a Canoness: Anecdotes and Sketches of Court Life in France during the Reigns of Louis the Fourteenth and Louis the Fifteenth. Selected by the Vicomtesse de Kerkadec from a Diary hitherto unpublished. 2 vols. (Hall & Co.)

Two of the most singular examples of old French social life were to be found in the "Abbé" and the "Chanoinesse." The Abbé was supposed to belong to the Church, and the Canoness to the Order of St. Augustin; and each realized the supposition in the same way, by only seemingly belonging to either Church

The Abbés of the last century recognized in Paris alone "Jerusalem the Golden." knew no other Paradise. They served neither Church nor State. In most Paris houses of distinction an Abbé had his home, and was known as "l'ami de la maison." He was not altogether an idle person, for this so-called tonsured clerk managed the servants for the master, and was the "complaisant" of the mistress. The first, he often served as secretary, and was seldom absent from the toilet-table of the second. The secrets of the whole household were in his keeping, and, like the "parson" in some of our old plays, he was on as intimate terms with the maid as with the mistress. It would seem that any man might dub himself M. l'Abbé who donned a sort of clerical costume, wore the calotte and the petit collet or rabat, and gave out that he at least intended to become one day a regularly ordained ecclesiastic. At a later date there was a disregard for even such outward appearances as these. Mercier, writing about ninety years ago, says that at that time there were numerous individuals in Paris who were really

young hussars, but who called themselves Abbés, and who wore neither the tonsure nor the little collar. In a coat à la Prussienne, with gold buttons, a cocked hat never on the head but ever under the arm, with a "frisure impertinente" and dainty effeminate airs, they passed their lives between the café and the theatre, except such time as was devoted to writing pamphlets to order, or epigrams intended to kill a reputation. How the morality of these pseudo-clerics was measured in the playhouse may be seen in a well-known passage in Sterne's 'Sentimental Journey.' The stage has satirized them in many a farce and comedy; literature has made celebrated the last court Abbé, De la Farre; and a whole volume has been devoted to recording the little sins of "Les Abbés Galants."

In this diary, less real than imaginary, and built up out of scattered stories, there is one good instance of the Abbé of the seventeenth century, namely, the Abbé de Pompadour. He was too lazy or too busy to read, as he was bound to do, his Breviary daily; accordingly, M. l'Abbé paid his old valet extra wages to fulfil that duty for him. "The old man was frequently to be seen in some corner of the anterooms, where his master went, stammering the Latin prayers." The windmill orisons ground for the benefit of Tartar personages, too idle to pray, but willing to pay for praise or petitions thus ground out for them, are on

as efficacious a principle.

The "Chanoinesse" has attracted scarcely less attention than the "Abbé." She was an Abbé in petticoats, and has figured, as he did, in society, history, novels, and the drama. To be made a Canoness of some pleasant "Chapter" was a favour granted to a few young ladies; wherefore, is beyond conjecture. The Canonesses were not bound to reside within "religious" walls. They delighted in the gayest of worldly scenes, and gathered together in the chapter for rest, relaxation, and fun. They were visited by young noblemen, who brought them all sorts of stories from "society." "I enjoyed hearing funny stories," says Madame de Kerkadec's Canoness, "but I had a perfect horror of all that was coarse, and I never remained in the room when Madame de Tencin began to say anything which would have made me blush." were we see, and are here expressly told, "moral Chanoinesses" in the Chapter. Love, of course, found his way into the Chapter at Remiremont (Vosges). "We could marry if we chose," says our Canoness, "though few cared to lose their liberty." She describes the Canoness life as "one of the easiest and pleasantest in the world. The rules were "only child's play," and if these putative daughters of St. Augustin occasionally appeared in the Chapter, they might cling to the world, the flesh, and the devil, in Paris or elsewhere, for the rest of the year. "The dress," we are told, "is black for ordinary wear, and grey for gala days." Visits to other convents were made on these gala days. At the Bernardines, says our lady, "with two or three other nuns, we laughed and were as merry over mundane affairs as if we had been in one of the gayest salons of Versailles." There was something coquettish in the gala The Duchesse de Bourgogne was so dress. charmed with it that she said, "it is most becoming, and at the next masked ball I shall

appear as a Chanoinesse." The Duchess died, and "the frolics of some of the Chanoinesses ceased for a time."

With regard to the costume of which the lady speaks, we may as well leave it to her own describing as she appeared in it at the Court of Louis the Fifteenth:—

"My Chanoinesse dress, notwithstanding its simplicity, was very costly. It was a splendid grey silk, which almost stood of itself, so thick was it. On my neck I wore a handkerchief of the finest muslin ever spun, and attached to the wide blue ribbon we wore was a splendid cross set with diamonds, the size of which made it priceless. It was a legacy of my aunt, the Comtesse de D—together with the husband similarly set with the same diamonds; my veil was also of the finest texture. In the evening, according to His Majesty's wishes, I took my place at cavagnole, Mesdames de Lauraguais and a few others being of the party. The Queen did not appear, but I had had the honour of a private interview immediately after my presentation; and sad and weary was the unfortunate Princess."

The "husband" named in the above extract is interpreted in an earlier passage illustrative of the Court of the Regent Duc de Orléans. Lord "Stairs" is so printed, after the French fashion:—

"The Regent was the first person to whom I spoke. He introduced to me the Earl of Stairs, his great friend, and as I was—so the world said—pretty and witty, I soon fell into conversation with both. My chanoinesse dress allowed me many privileges, and people talked to me with little restraint, though always with marked respect. Lord Stairs asked me playfully why I was not married.—'I am married, my lord,' I said at once.—'How married?'—'Do you not see my husband?' I replied, showing him a particular sort of pin fastening my veil, and which was called a husband. Lord Stairs laughed very much, advising me to get a real one. 'Madame la Comtesse de D—is too wise,' said the Regent. 'She can make her present husband obey her; which might not be so easy with a real one.'"

We have said that Love sometimes found a victim among the members of the lovely Chapter. Occasionally, the romance was a sad one. Madame de Bethizy, Chanoinesse du Poussay, loved passionately Lord Tyrconnel, and, unfortunately, afterwards gave her love to his brother, who deserted her. The Dame de Cœur Léger blew her brains out! It is very clear that there was more love than devotion in the breasts of these ladies, though the more audacious of them seem, curiously enough, to have relied very much on the Virgin Mary for perfect absolution for all backsliding. Perhaps it was because all moral slips were looked upon as amiable weaknesses! When the reigning "favourite" of Louis the Fifteenth was supposed to have failed in keeping that exemplary monarch in good spirits, our Chanoinesse's brother said to her, "Rosette, if you had been the King's favourite, how different you would have made him. Only it would not have been right for my good little sister to occupy such a post." The sister confesses that this speech set her "blushing dreadfully."

As far as this book gives some idea of that little-known character in England, the half-worldly, half-religious "Chanoinesse," it has some little merit to recommend it. Beyond this it is disappointing. There is nothing to show that the supposed author ever existed at all; and there is little told that has not been related again and again. However,

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persons who can be easily amused may find their account, especially if they are ignorant of the old Court life of France, in devoting an hour or two to the sayings, doings, and general experiences of the Canoness of Remirement.

ROMAN FOLK-LORE.

The Folk-Lore of Rome. Collected by word of mouth from the people, by R. H. Busk. (Longmans & Co.)

WHEN we reviewed the 'Sagas from the Far East,' a book published anonymously last year, we intimated that the method adopted by the compiler was not by any means to our taste. We learn from the title-page of the present work that those 'Sagas' were translated and annotated by the lady who has now published a large collection of tales "collected by word of mouth from the people" of Rome and its neighbourhood. But we are glad to find that she has altered her method, and that considerably for the better. It may, indeed, be said that her plan of arranging and annotating her stories is excellent, and her present work has an air of genuineness about it in which its predecessor was sadly deficient. The notes are especially useful and sensible, the annotator dealing in this instance with a subject on which she can give information derived from personal knowledge. It is always a pleasure to be able to report progress and improvement, and therefore we gladly call attention to the merits of Miss Busk's most recent publication.

But we are obliged to take on trust the tales comprised in her present volume. In the case of the 'Sagas,' we could compare her paraphrase of Jülg's version of the 'Siddhi Kür' with that version itself, not to the advantage of that paraphrase. But as regards the Roman folk-tales, we can express no certain opinion. It will be for Italian critics to decide whether Miss Busk has proved herself a trustworthy amanuensis. Meanwhile, however, we may accept these stories as an interesting contribution to that vast store of material which is awaiting the critical inspection of the scholar who is destined to arrange and classify and assign to their respective localities the scattered folk-tales of the world.

Miss Busk frequently refers in her notes to Hungarian folk-tales, and she will do good service if she will give us a book on the subject, for very little is as present known to any but Magyar scholars about Hungarian folk-lore. Only, if she does so, let her bear in mind that such a book will have no scientific value unless the stories are accurately translated, and minute references given to the sources on which she has drawn. As to Italian folk-tales, what with the books already published on the subject in German, and what with those which MM. Angelo de Gubernatis, Giuseppe Pitrè, and Domenico Comparetti have published, or are about to publish, in Italian, we shall soon be embarrassed by the richness of our stores of information.

There is not much that is specially characteristic of Italy in these Roman tales. Oranges and pomegranates are frequently mentioned, but otherwise the stories are singularly destitute of "local colour." Two supernatural beings, however, figure in them, who are important as linking ancient mythology with modern folk-lore. The one is the Fata,

"a powerful enchantress, . . . always good-natured and benevolent, as distinguished from the malevolent 'strega,' a nearer counterpart of our witch," and who is the representative of the ancient Fates, the cousin of the French Fées. The other is the Orco, who (together with his wife, the Orca,) corresponds to the Northern Troll, the Modern Greek Drakos, the Russian Snake, the Cornish Giant, and who is the legitimate successor of the old Latin god of the lower world, Orcus, from whose name comes that of the Ogre,—in which, although the question was finally settled long ago, Mr. Isaac Taylor persists in seeing a reference to Ugrian barbarism.

By way of a specimen of the shorter Roman stories, we may give an abridg-ment of the tale of 'The Countess's Cat' There was a Countess, a rich widow, who had no companion but a cat, for which a boiled chicken was provided every day. One day, while she was absent, wicked servants ate up the cat's chicken themselves. Meanwhile, "the cat said nothing, but looked on with great eyes, full of meaning." When the Countess returned at night, and went up stairs, "the cat followed her as he always did, for he slept on her bed; but he followed at a distance, without purring or rubbing himself against her." And "that night the cat throttled the Countess, and killed her." For, says the Roman moralist, "the cat is very intelligent in his own interest, but he is a traitor."

FACETLE.

Musarum Deliciæ; or, the Muses Recreation.
—Wit Restor'd.—Wit's Recreations. 2 vols.
(Chatto & Windus.)

Among the signs of the revival of letters in England in the sixteenth century may be counted the first appearance of miscellanies in which the fugitive poetry of the day found refuge. Poetry in the reign of the Tudor monarchs commenced to be a courtly accom-The list of sixteenth-century plishment. poets includes Queen Elizabeth, King Edward, and a host of people of rank, among whom are the Earls of Oxford, Dorset, and Essex, Lords Surrey, Rochford, Sheffield, Walden, and Vaux of Harrowden, the Lord High Admiral of England, with knights and gentlemen in-numerable. Tottel's 'Miscellany,' published in 1557, was the first attempt to collect scattered works of minor poets of which any record survives. It was followed, in 1559, by the now famous 'Myrrour for Magistrates, and in succeeding years by the 'Paradise of Dainty Devises,' 'A Gorgious Gallery of Gallant Inventions,' 'A Handeful of Pleasant Delites,' 'The Phœnix Nest,' 'England's Helicon,' 'A Poetical Rapsody,' and one or two other collections, with titles equally full of pleasant promise. To these compilations we owe the preservation of many poems of high merit and interest. By the close of the century, however, poetry had become a vocation. Authors took care of their productions, reaping the honour, and it might be the profit, of their sale, and the only scattered poems which remained to be included in an anthology were the commendatory verses which, at the commencement of a seventeenth-century volume, stand like so many lords in waiting to bow in his majesty the poet. The reigns of the Stuarts include few collections earlier than

that storehouse of the wit and filth of seventeenth-century literature, the State Poems, the miscellanies to which Dryden lent his name, and those which were announced as by the most eminent hands. A few attempts were made during the reign of Charles the First and the Commonwealth to bring together the verses which commended themselves to the taste of some enthusiastic admirer of poetry. The times were little favourable to such pursuits, however, and the collections, as such, have but moderate interest. In 1817 a few rare works of this class were comprised in two volumes, and published, with some preliminary matter, by Messrs. Longmans. This edition, scarcely less rare at the present day than the originals of the separate works of which it is composed, has now been reprinted with all its curious contents, both literary and pictorial.

Of the three separate compositions contained in the two volumes before us, one only is en-titled to rank with the poetical miscellanies of the preceding century. "'Musarum De-liciæ; or, the Muses Recreation,' containing severall pieces of poetique wit, by Sr. J. M. and Ja. Smith," and "'Wit Restord,' in severall select poems not formerly publisht," consist principally of original poems by Sir John Mennis, Vice-Admiral of the Fleet to Charles the First, and Chief Comptroller of the Navy under his son, and Dr. James Smith, Archdeacon of Barnstaple, Chaplain to the Earl of Clarendon, and Rector of Alphyngton in Devonshire. It is a difficult and not particularly important task to assign to the respective authors their rightful share in these productions, or to know how much foreign aid was contributed. Sir John Mennis, according to Anthony Wood, "assisted Sir John Suckling in some of his poetry." One may imagine, accordingly, Suckling to have had a hand in some of the wittier poems in the 'Musarum Deliciæ.' 'A Journey into France,' which is one of the sprightliest of the compositions, is included in the works of Bishop Corbet, on what authority it is now impossible to say. 'The Lover's Melancholy' is taken from 'The Nice Valour; or, the Passionate Madman, of Beaumont and Fletcher; and other poems come like echoes of Herrick, Carew, and other Cavalier poets.

Some of the poems are well worthy of preservation. A poet's farewell to his threadbare cloak is in a vein of genuine humour. The opening lines are good enough for Marvel:—Cloak (if I so may call thee), though thou art My old acquaintance, prithee now let's part; Thou wert my equal friend in thirty one, But now thou look'st like a meer hanger on, And art so useless to me, I scarce know Sometimes whether I have thee on or no. But this I needs must say, when thou go'st from me, These ten years thou hast been no burden to me.

Nothing in the fairy poetry of Herrick or Drayton is quainter in fancy than some of the verses in 'King Oberon's Apparel.' After describing the doublet "made of the fourleaved true-love grasse," the cloak of "tinsel gossamere" and other garments,

Dy'd crimson with a maidens blush, And lin'd with dandelion plush,

the author, who is assumed to be Sir John Mennis, says:—

The sword they girded on his thigh,
Was smallest blade of finest rye.
A paire of buskins they did bring
Of the cow-ladyes coral wing;

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Powder'd o're with spots of jet,
And lin'd with purple violet.
His belt was made of mirtle leaves,
Plaited in small curious threaves,
Beset with amber cowslip studds
And fring'd about with daizy budds,
In which his bugle horne was hung,
Made of the babbling ecchos tongue;
Which set unto his moon-burn'd lip
He windes and then his faeries skip.

The phrase "moon-burn'd lip" is bold and original. In some editions of this work, but not in all, appeared, we are told, the well-known lines subsequently imitated by Butler in 'Hudibras':

He that is in battle slain, Can never rise to fight again; But he that fights and runs away May live to fight another day.

—an idea found in 'Ralph Roister Doister' and other early productions. Sir John seems also to have anticipated a portion of the famous stave in 'Drunken Barnabee':

Banbury veni o profanum, &c.

In some verses 'Upon Lute-strings Cateaten' are the lines:

Or else, profane, be hang'd on Monday, For butchering a mouse on Sunday.

The first edition of 'Musarum Deliciæ' was published in 1640; that of 'Drunken Barnabee' circa 1648. The question of indebtedness rests, apparently, upon the point whether this poem appeared in the first edition of Sir John Mennis's works.

In 'Wit Restor'd' the most notable poems are 'Phillida flouts me,' the epitaphs on Hobson the carrier, some verses entitled 'The Reply,' and the ballad of 'Little Musgrave' barefaced plagiarisms most of them, original poems of well-known authors being taken and

slightly altered.

'Wit's Recreations, Augmented with Ingenious Conceits for the Wittie and Merrie, Medecines for the Melancholie,' is a collection of epigrams, epitaphs, puzzles, poems in the shape of objects, and other quaint and fantastic fripperies of the early muse. For these Quarles, Donne, Herrick, Waller, and poets so remote even as Lydgate have been laid under contribution, though the names of the writers are never subscribed to their works. At the close are a number of proverbs collected

by George Herbert. The works thus brought together are equally curious, valuable, and interesting, the collection of epigrams being the largest, so far as we are aware, that had been given to the world at the time of its appearance. In works like these the limits of decency are frequently overstepped. The seventeenth century was tolerant of language which now has gone out of usage among people of education; and ladies of birth and breeding like the Duchess of Newcastle, in her time a model of propriety, used words and discussed matters that now are tabooed in literature and in society. Our epigrammatists especially took Martial for their model, and came up to their classical predecessors in obscenity, if in nothing else. A regrettable proportion of the contents of the three works before us is, in subject and language, unsuited to the present day. poems or epigrams are coarse, however, in the sense in which Rabelais and Swift, Pope in his imitations, and other kindred writers, are coarse. To works subsequently written they

are wholly superior in this respect, however,

and there is not one line that is likely to do

harm to any human being, or cause any feeling more dangerous than a shudder of dislike or repulsion.

Are then, it may be asked, works of this class proper subjects for reprinting? We answer, unquestionably. Something might be advanced against their appearance in a cheap form, intended to attract a general public. Half-aguinea a volume, which, however, is the price at which this book and the companion volumes, containing the 'Pills to Purge Melancholy' of Durfey, are published, is a price which few but scholars will pay. The idea that any human being will read through the songs of Durfey, or the poems of Mennis, for the sake of the indecency, is wholly unreasonable. The volumes with which we deal, and the Durfey to which we have referred, have been the subject of an essay in a contemporary journal, in which the interference of a private society is invited in order to stop what is treated as an immoral traffic. It is no duty of ours to comment upon the circumstance of a periodical, which should resent any attempt to interfere with the freedom of printing, soliciting such interference. It seems necessary to repeat once more, however, what has been said by Milton, and established in every civilized country, that the literature of past ages belongs to the present day, and that the world is not to be deprived of works from which it may derive profit or pleasure because they are, in individual opinion, objectionable or dangerous.

There are, unquestionably, a few products of human intellect so perverse and so revolting that no man would be pardonable who should attempt to bring them in any shape before the public. So completely true is it that good books hold their place, and bad ones drop out and are forgotten, that there is, probably, scarcely an individual among those classes even most interested in literature who has ever seen a work of the class denoted, or to whom the few authors who have degraded letters and humanity are more than a name. Society in such matters is thoroughly healthy, and will remain so while the responsibility of looking after its own welfare is left in its hands. If we apply the standard of commonplace respectability and Philistine ignorance to the press and to art, we shall inevitably drop from a place in the van of civilization, if we do not lose our right to be considered civilized. There are signs of a movement in this direction. The half-educated classes, if appealed to, would, of course, be as dangerous in our libraries as ever was Mohammedan conqueror. They would be in favour of the suppression of all that is not in keeping with the morals of the day. It is appalling to think in what a position the world would be had the Greeks and Romans destroyed whatever in early literature was contrary to received theology and morals. Milton's eloquent words remain: "Why should we then affect a rigour contrary to the manner of God and of nature, by abridging or scanting those means, which books freely permitted, are both to the trial of virtue and exercise of truth." ('Areopagitica,' Prose Works, vol. ii. page 75, ed. 1848.)

The right to reprint the writings of Aristophanes, Lucian, Martial, and Petronius has never been denied, and grave and reverend prelates have founded their claims to distinction upon the editing of uncastrated editions of these works. Is the world, it may

be asked, to restrict itself to works in the classical languages, framing for them one law, and another for more modern productions? If the publishers of 'Musarum Deliciæ' and Durfey's 'Pills' commit a sin against society, to be punished by fine or imprisonment, Rabelais, Brantôme, Ariosto, Marguerite de Navarre, Clément Marot, Marston the Satirist. Swift, Dryden, and most of the dramatists of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, with hundreds of other and more recent writers, must be in time forgotten, since none will be bold enough to reprint these works. It will not suffice to say that the merits of such writers are so conspicuous as to cover their defects. The world is the judge in these matters; and if the books now under notice be nought, they will come to nothing. We want, as Macaulay says, a robust and not a valetudinarian virtue. It comes fairly within the province of criticism to warn from a book those to whom it is likely to prove useless or unpleasant, but not to summon the action of a private society to the discharge of a task that has never been tolerated, except when the world was overwhelmed with superstition or enslaved in ignorance. We deal with the broad question, rather than with the narrower issue of the individual book. It must surprise a little, however, pious George Herbert, the Bishop of Oxford, and the Archdeacon of Barnstaple, if their ghosts are conscious of human affairs, to find a work in which their joint share amounts to half the entire substance selected as meriting general reprobation, and subjecting its publishers to the risks of a prosecu-

GREGORY THE SEVENTH.

Life of Gregory the Seventh; preceded by a Sketch of the History of the Papacy to the Eleventh Century. By A. F. Villemain. Translated by J. B. Brockley. 2 vols. (Bentley & Son.)

The work, which is translated in the volumes before us, occupied the closing years of the life of M. Villemain. About 230 pages are devoted to a history of the Papacy in the times preceding Gregory the Seventh; the remaining portion is occupied with the life of the great Pope. The translation is easy and flowing, and, on the whole, good; yet ambiguous expressions occur, e.g., "This council decided against the opinion of the Bishop of Rome, that a second baptism was necessary." Besides the shortened forms of well-known names which are found in French writers do not look well in an English version: and Donat, Montan, Patrice, have an unfamiliar appearance, if not an unpleasant sound to ears accustomed to the trisyllabic words more commonly employed.

Turning to the subject-matter of the book, we may speak first of the introductory part. The events of a thousand years must be summarily treated in so short a space as that allotted to them, yet the reader will find more than a mere skeleton of facts. The author discusses men and measures as he hurries us along with rapid strides through the centuries. His estimate of Constantine (to select an instance) is just: a politician who availed himself of the growing power of Christianity to further his own ambitious projects, and who perhaps succeeded in persuading himself that

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he was an appointed agent for furthering the Divine counsels. He was willing that the Church should have her assemblies, and although at the Council of Nicæa it is said that he took a place on a lower seat than the tishops, yet he abandoned none of his imperial prerogatives. If the new religion did not permit him to perform its highest religious functions, he intended to retain a supreme control over the bishops of the Church as well as over all other subjects of his empire. To look at his conduct in this light, as the legislation of the period amply warrants us in doing, only renders it the more interesting to trace the varying fortunes of the Church and the Empire until their relative positions were completely inverted under the sway of Hildebrand and Innocent the Third.

The Hildebrandine era is not merely instructive in the highest degree to the historical student, but also full of interest to the general reader. Among the long line of rulers who have occupied the chair of St. Peter, none has left a more permanent impress on the insti-tutions which they developed, than Gregory the Seventh. His acts live to-day in the Latin communion, the events of the last few years must recall many of them to our minds. and those who would criticize the claims which the Roman See is now making before the nations of Europe, must seek for some of the most important materials from which to form a judgment, in the events of this Pontificate. We cannot now lay before our readers any detailed account of Gregory the Seventh's policy, but will limit ourselves to indicating one or two points of present interest upon which the volumes under consideration furnish important comment.

A document, professing to be issued by Pius the Ninth, dispensing the college of cardinals from observing in the election of a successor the constitutions which regulate the time and place of such election, made lately no small stir both in ecclesiastical and political circles. With its genuineness, which is at least doubtful, we have nothing to do, and there may be sufficient precedent for the exceptional methods allowed; but the present method of procedure boasts of an antiquity of eight centuries, and owes its origin to the policy of Hildebrand. A Council summoned soon after the accession of Nicolas the Second (1059) decreed that on the death of a pontiff the cardinal bishops and priests should appoint a successor with the consent of the clergy and Roman people. This was to be done "saving the honour due to our beloved son Henry"; but the acts of Hildebrand and his successors show that this phrase was to be interpreted as an empty compliment. The true object of the enactment was to annul the influence of the Emperor over the election of a pope; the bull Apostolica sedis announced a similar policy, and the chief opponent is now as then a German Emperor.

Again, in an address delivered towards the close of last year, Archbishop Manning directed attention to the true relations which should exist between the temporal and spiritual governments, and describe the opposing systems of Cæsarism and Ultramontanism. We can but refer our readers to the essay; should they wish to read it with comments on the practical working of the system there eulogized, they may turn with advantage to the life of

Gregory the Seventh. In theory, the civil and spiritual powers may be held to be independent; but when a question arises as to the respective limits of these authorities, who is to decide? The Ultramontane answer converts this theory of mutual independence into subjection on the part of the civil power. The infallible judge must decide the limits of his own jurisdiction; the civil power is not able to do this, and if it attempt to speak authoritatively in such questions, the spiritual power will not listen to its assertions. If any be tempted by the severe logic of the Archbishop to think such a scheme practicable, let them remember Henry the Fourth in the courtyard of Canossa, and our own country under the interdict of Innocent, as the no less severely logical consequences of the theory. Hildebrand stands prominently forward in history as one of the chief opponents of Cæsarism, and he thus promulgated his theory. "The pope has the right of deposing emperors. He can be judged by none. By his order and with his permission it is lawful for subjects to accuse princes. The Pope can loose subjects from the oath of fealty." These are official utterances-stamped, we presume, in the opinion of modern Catholics with the impress of infallibility. A letter of Gregory, addressed to the prelates of Germany, may be found in Vol. II., p. 64, in which he developes his theory of the subjection of the civil power at length. "Can there be any doubt," he exclaims, "that the priests of Jesus Christ are the fathers and masters of kings and princes, and of all the faithful!" It can hardly be a question of mere historical interest to trace the actions of a Pontiff whose guiding principles are in such close accord with those propounded by educated Roman Catholics of our own day. The attempt to Catholics of our own day. The attempt to carry out these principles led to the long struggle between the temporal and spiritual powers which, commenced by Hildebrand, terminated in the virtual victory of the papal party at Worms, and prepared the way for the yet loftier pretensions of Innocent the Third.

M. Villemain has described the events of the pontificate of Gregory the Seventh at much greater length than Dr. Milman, in his history of Latin Christianity; and yet we think that our own countryman has in the shorter space, put more clearly before his readers the problems which presented themselves, and the methods adopted for their solution. The more complete narrative will, however, be found suggestive, and will well repay perusal.

The book would have been of greater advantage to real historical students if the references had been more numerous, and made on some definite system. Many details, (e.g., the whole description of the Council of Rheims) are given without any foot-note whatever. And we regret this the more as the references in the book (and we admit they are fairly numerous in certain portions) are to original authorities. There should be but one step

between the reader and the original sources of information—and this principle (which should, we think, guide all historical writers) is ob-

served in this volume.

Axel and Valborg: a Tragedy, in Five Acts; and other Poems. Translated from the Danish of Adam Oehlenschläger, by Pierce Butler. Edited by Prof. Palmer. With a Memoir of the Translator. (Trübner & Co.)

This volume of translations, unfortunately osthumous, seems to be all that Mr. Butler has left in a state fit for publication of various studies in the literature of Scandinavia, which he was led to make after a visit to Norway in 1856. The greater part of the volume is occupied with the tragedy of Oehlenschläger; but at the end three lyrical pieces are appended, not, as the title-page falsely declares, translated from the Danish of that poet, but from the Norwegian of Andreas Munch and the Dano-Norwegian of Hauch. These lyrics, however, do but eke out the thinness of the little drama. What particularly induced Mr. Butler to choose 'Axel og Valborg' for translation is not stated. Doubtless the simplicity of its language was attractive to a student in his first effort at translation.

'Axel og Valborg' holds a kind of transitional place in the history of Oehlenschläger's poetry. Born in 1779, he made a name first, under the influence of the Romanticists in Germany and Steffens in Copenhagen, as a lyrist. It was not till 1805 that the grandeur of early Scandinavian lore so completely penetrated his mind that the limits of a song or romance became insufficient for him. In that year he wrote the first of those tragedies that have immortalized his name, Hakon Jarl,' on a theme taken from the heroic history of the north. Then he began that long wandering through Europe which had so enormous an influence on his intellectual development. He spent the spring of 1806 at Weimar, in almost daily intercourse with Goethe, and the autumn at Dresden, in intimate friendship with Tieck. Fired with new ambition, he passed on to Paris, and spent 1807 in study at the Louvre, when he discovered the treasures that lay hid in Snorre Sturluson, Saxo Grammaticus, and Suhm. The results of these draughts at the fountainheads of Northern romance were two of his greatest tragedies—one, 'Palnatoke,' belonging to the heroic, the other, 'Baldur hinn Gode, to the mythological epoch. So 1807 passed in the creation of these splendid poems, and in the enjoyment of the intercourse of a Dane, his old enemy, the comic poet, Baggesen, whom the bombardment of Copenhagen had driven to Paris. Early in 1808, when the life of exile in France was beginning thoroughly to weary him, Oehlenschläger wrote 'Axel og Valborg,' his fourth tragedy, and hastened away into Switzerland with it. It was not brought out till 1810.

When one compares it with its three predecessors, 'Axel og Valborg' strikes one as distinctly retrograde. The Goethean influence that immediately afterwards blossomed to the full in 'Correggio' is already at work, weakening and spoiling the fresh northern originality of the true Oehlenschläger. The work is neither mythological nor heroic; it is a dramatized ballad, a popular song (folke-vise), certainly of as late a date as the fifteenth century, thrown into blank-verse dialogue, and illuminated with stage-sunshine from the foot-lights. It is the most tricky of Oehlenschläger's dramas, the one most obviously written to the stage;

and it is full, far too full, of small theatrical effects and unnatural positions. It was the beginning of the sentimentality that entered into the revival of old Scandinavian romance, the "little speck within the garnered fruit." The evil gradually assumed such enormous proportions, and culminated fatally under the gold-dust and glitter of Tegnér's 'Frithiofssaga.' The fourth and fifth acts are extraordinarily tasteless and ill-conceived; the mock-ghost of Saint Olaf marching round the Cathedral as the clock strikes twelve is a positively farcical figure, and nothing can well be more absurd than the final scene, where Valborg, kneeling beside the corpse of Axel, is literally sung to death by Wilhelm, for the sole and single purpose of winding the tragedy up decently with the death of heroine as well as hero.

Notwithstanding all this, 'Axel og Valborg' is well worth reading. No serious work was ever written by Oehlenschläger that did not flash with jewelled passages. The scene in the third act, where the marriage having been violently broken off, the lovers are left alone to say farewell, is equally original and exquisite; and there is little in the first three acts that one would wish changed. Mr. Butler's version is very graceful and correct, so well done, in fact, that we doubly regret that we are to see no more translations from his hand. An equally successful version of 'Hakon Jarl' or 'Palnatoke' would be a real addition to our literature.

NOVELS OF THE WEEK.

The Mill Wheel. By Helen Dickens. 3 vols. (Newby.)

John Fenn's Wife. By Maria Lewis. (Samuel Tinsley.)

A COURSE of grammar and English reading might enable Miss Dickens, who has some imagination, to construct a readable story. At present, whether she rises into rhapsody. or sinks into slang, she is equally far from expressing herself in decent English. It is not only that she falls into an occasional lapse or solecism, but that every turn of expression is marked by vulgarity. The usual low level of the narrative, which is vernacular in the strictest sense, becomes offensively slavish when there is any attempt at wit. The jests, for instance, of Mr. Norman Howard, in spite of his euphonious name, would sound slangy in the mouth of a draper's assistant. bluntness of the good young ladies, whose mission it is to thwart the schemes of the villain of the piece, degenerates into the most brutal rudeness. They speak and think like very rough men, while the interesting artist, who represents masculine excellence, weeps, gushes, and bewails himself like a silly, sentimental milliner. A more loathsome object than this precious hero, with his sickening long hair and selfish grievances, has seldom been introduced to the public. The patience of our readers would be exhausted were we to enumerate instances of the peculiarity of our author's style. "Derived at," "by the name of," "without" for unless, "dein several impossible senses, "telling a story without attributes," are a few gems extracted at random. The story, of course, is as grossly improbable as the method of telling it. An ancient baronet's family,

rejoicing in the Norman name of Rudkin, is thrown into vast confusion by the head of the family taking a young wife. Sir Bevis's nieces, who reckoned upon sharing his fortune, resent this as a personal wrong. The only strange thing about this part of the story is, that the author evidently shares their moral indignation. However, that their wrath may not be purely selfish, the new Lady Rudkin is provided with an early lover, who also turns out to be entitled in remainder to the estates, and who acts the bold, bad man with elaborate energy. He kisses the wife, cheats an insurance office, and murders the heir, winding up his villainy by marrying Lady Rudkin when Sir Bevis has been driven to suicide. A species of counterplot is concerned with the fortunes of the long-haired artist, who is the son of a sister of the baronet. Clorinda Rudkin many years before ran off with a gipsy, who was really a Spanish nobleman in disguise, and her son has grown up in ignorance of his family and claims. This is the less important, as though his cousin discovers him, she feels herself bound by a promise not to enlighten him on the subject. When he dies, and the second baronet commits suicide, the estates of the Rudkins revert to the Crown, and we take leave of a set of people with the most extraordinary names, and speaking the most extraordinary language, it has ever been our fortune to meet with. There is an Appendix, in which a middle-class maiden soliloquizes madly on the loss of a patrician lover, whose name is truly marvellous.

In 'John Fenn's Wife' the married couples are influenced by some centrifugal force which compels them to fall asunder. Everybody packs up and runs away. First in order of time, though not in that of the narrative, comes the extraordinary clergyman, who runs away from his newly-married wife, whom he fondly loves, because he meets with a woman whom he has seduced in his youth, but to whom he has the strongest aversion. equally extraordinary wife, not to be outdone, hides herself from her erratic husband, and suffers him to marry again in the belief of her Her daughter, who has nothing on her conscience, except having once sung at a music-hall, flies from her affectionate husband on the bare hint from a casual tramp that he knows something to her disadvantage. parties travel to town, and the game of hideand-seek ends happily in the re-union of the first couple, the re-establishment of Mrs. John Fenn in an impregnably respectable position, and her sudden development from a frivolous child into a reasonable woman. With due allowance for absurdities, the story is not badly written.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

It was but last week that we reviewed Mrs. Le Breton's 'Memoir of Mrs. Barbauld,' and now, curiously enough, there comes to us from America another life, Memoir of Mrs. A. L. Barbauld, with many of her letters, and a selection from her poems and prose writings, by Grace A. Ellis. This is a book of really considerable merit. It is conscientious and painstaking. Nothing is omitted that the author could gather from any available source of information; and scarcely a mention of Mrs. Barbauld can have appeared in print that has escaped Mrs. Ellis's notice. On the other hand, Mrs. Le Breton had a certain advantage, of which she made far too little; and Mrs. Ellis

could not give us, as they had never previously been published, the full particulars of Mr. Barbauld's illness, or the letters which were in Mrs. Le Breton's own possession. Then, too, we must confess, that this book, though a fair and careful account of Mrs. Barbauld, does not attain to real literary distinction. It just wants the vivifying touch that turns a dead biography into an actual life. We read about Mrs. Barbauld, but we do not see her. We learn what she did and what she wrote,—what other people said of her, and what she thought of the world of men and letters, but we get no further. Mrs. Barbauld is not the real living person that their biographers have made of Charlotte Bronté or of John Sterling. We should add, that the second volume of this work contains Mrs. Barbauld's poems, and a well chosen selection from her prose works; so that, taken altogether, this is certainly the best edition that has yet appeared. It is annoying, however, to have, within a few days of each other, two lives of Mrs. Barbauld, neither of them what we might have hoped. If Mrs. Ellis had only had Mrs. Le Breton's fuller knowledge, or if Mrs. Le Breton had only taken a tithe of Mrs. Ellis's trouble, what a capital book we should have had! We may take this opportunity of correcting a misprint in our last week's review. It was Sir William Gell whe was Mrs. Barbauld's pupil.

PROF. PALMER'S History of the Jewish Nation, from the Earliest Times to the Present Day (Christian Knowledge Society) is a pleasant, readable little book, which is much more than can be said for many works of the same kind. In the earlier period, where an historian mainly follows the course of the Biblical narrative, a large fund of illustration has been brought to bear on the subject from Prof. Palmer's personal knowledge of many from Prof. Palmer's personal knowledge of many of the localities referred to, especially the Desert of the forty years' Wanderings, which he was the first thoroughly to explore. The history of the Jews after the captivity is, save the period which saw the first rise of Christianity, a terra incognita to nine readers out of ten. Thus, a cordial welcome may be given to the good résumé here furnished of the history of the troubles which followed the return the Maccalean revolt and the subsequent return, the Maccabean revolt, and the subsequent chequered fortunes of the Jews till the capture of Jerusalem by Titus, after which follows an interesting digression on the fresh light which recent researches have thrown on the topography of the Holy City. The history after the fall of the religious polity, the revolt of Bar-Cocheba, the formation of the Mishna and Gemara, the treatment of the Jews under Gothic and Mohammedan rule, and the long series of their persecutions and the periodical appearance of false Messiahs, are graphically told; and the leading Jewish names, in mediæval and later times, as Maimonides, Spinoza, and that truly great man, Moses Men-Spinoza, and that truly great man, Moses Mendelssohn, are referred to in passing. A large number of woodcuts and a good map do much to embellish the work, and will vastly increase its interest with the class of readers for whom the book was specially intended. Here and there we notice a trifling lapsus plumæ in passing, as the mention of Domitian as "Vespasian's brother and successor," or of the famous Inquisitor as Thomas de Torquemada, or, may we add, that of one of the most distinguished scholars at the revival of learning as "one Reuchlin." The book, however, is an exceedingly good one, and the Christian Knowledge Society and Prof. Palmer will earn many young readers' thanks for helping to dislodge the dry old text-books that still rule in too many places.

Mr. Thornton has republished his excellent little work, A Plea for Peasant Proprietors, with additions, in which he points out that it would have been wiser to have carried out his scheme in Ireland. The work is issued by Messrs. Macmillan.

Messes. Hurst & Blackett send us Words of Hope and Comfort to those in Sorrow, which we mentioned some weeks ago as in the press. These letters, the work of a pure and devout spirit,

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deserve to find many readers. They are greatly superior to the average of what is called religious literature.

THE Canadian Almanac, sent us by Messrs Cobb, Clark & Co., of Toronto, is badly printed on poor paper, but contains a great deal of useful information.

WE have to thank Mr. Mackeson for two excellent books of reference, Low's Handbook to the Charities of London (Low & Co.), and the Guide to the Churches of London (Metzler & Co.). Both to the Churches of London (Metaler & Co.). Both are creditable to the editor; but the latter at least should be bound in cloth. Nothing is less adapted for reference than a thick octavo pamphlet in a naper cover.

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

Theology.

Breviary Offices, from Lauds to Compline, 12mo. 3/6 cl.
Broadus's Preparation and Delivery of Sermons, 5th edit. 6/
Cherful Words. Sermons, edited by W. Hyslop, cr. 8vo. 5/ cl.
Christianity in Great Britain, 12mo. 2/6 cl.
How's Daily Family Prayers for Churchmen, 5th edit. 1/6 cl.
Jelfs (G. E.) Our Treasure of Light, 12mo. 1/6 cl. 1p.
Our Sunday Book for Holy Thought, &c., edited by E. Bohn,
2 vols. imp. 8vo. 35/
Palmer's Three Wet Sundays with the Book of Joshua, 1/6 cl.
Romes's (Rev. N.) Humanity of Christ, cr. 8vo. 4/ cl.
Supernatural Religion, 2 vols. 8vo. 24/ cl.
Taimage's (Rev. T. de W.) Burning Words, with Portrait, 3/6
Thiselton's (Rev. A. C.) Church and Home Lessons from the
Book of Hoses, cr. wvo. 5/ cl.
Whedon's (D. D.) Popular Commentary upon New Testament,
Vol. 1, Gospels, cr. 8vo. 5/ cl.
Philosophy.
Kant's Critical Philosophy, by J. P. Mahaffy, Vol. 1, Pt. 3, 3/

Kant's Critical Philosophy, by J. P. Mahaffy, Vol. 1, Pt. 3, 3/ Franklyn's (H. B.) Outlines of Military Law, 3/6 cl. swd.

Poetry.

O'Shaughnessy's (A.) Music and Moonlight, cr. Svo. 7/6 cl.

Music. Fifteen Soprano and Mezzo-Soprano Songs, as Sung by Nilsson, &c., 4to. 1/ swd. Westropp's Gems of Sacred Songs, 4to. 1/ swd.

Westropp's Gems of Sacred Songs, 4to. 1/swd.

Bistory. (Col. C. C.) Waterloo Lectures, 3rd edit. 8vo. 10.6

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'ETRUSCAN RESEARCHES.'

Cambridge, March, 1874. HAVING read through Mr. Isaac Taylor's 'Etruscan Researches,' which are at present attracting some attention, I may be allowed to make the

following remarks. It is not my intention to write anything like a review of the work. I do not feel myself competent for such a task, from not feel myself competent for such a task, from the difficulty of the subject and the number of languages with which the book deals. All that I want to say is, that Mr. Taylor has fallen, over and over again, into the strange mistake of citing as Turkish (Turanian) words which are really either Arabic (Semitic) or Persian (Indo-European). Every Orientalist knows that the Turkish of Constantinople is a composite language, like Hindustānī, and that it has adopted a host of Arabic and Persian vocables of all kinds. Hence those who are not familiar with these other tongues must use Turkish vocabularies for philological purposes with great caution. How far Mr. Taylor's arguments are affected by this pervading error, it is easy to see. A very little care would have kept him clear of it, as in one or two cases he has had

an inkling of the truth. Let me give some examples. Page 99, "the Turkic ghoul" is in reality the Arabic ghul, an evil spirit often mentioned in ante-islamic poetry. Page 102, "the substantive fena (vana)," meaning 'destruction,' 'annihilation,' 'death,' is the common Arabic word $fan\bar{a}$. On the same page Mr. Taylor remarks that "the suffix d or t in Turkish commonly denotes abstract nouns, as in melekyut 'sovereignty,' from melek a 'king,' munidat 'a proclaiming,' from munadi a 'herald, nejdat 'courage,' nedamet 'repentance,'" It 'so happens that the termination d or t is not so used in Turkish, and that the words cited in evidence are all pure Arabic: malakūt, malik; munādāt, munādī; najdat, nadāmat. Page 108, "Closely related to the Tungusic han we have," says Mr. Taylor, "the Turkish words jan 'soul, jinn a 'spirit,' and jen-aze a 'corpse.'" And again, "we find a close approximation to the Etrusean "we find a close approximation to the Etruscan and Finnic forms in the Turkish word khayal, a 'spectre' or 'ghost.'" Unluckily, jān is a Persian word, whilst jūna (a collective, 'spirits') is Arabic. The latter has nothing whatever to do with the equally Arabic word jūnāza or jūnāza, 'a bier or corpse,' which comes from the radical jūnaza, in Ethiopic ganaza, 'to wrap in a shroud.' Khayāl is also a well-known Arabic word. Page 113, "the Turkish nissti, 'annihilation,' or ezhātīha, a dragon' may perhaps furnish an appropriate 'dragon,' may perhaps furnish an appropriate meaning," namely for the word NUSTHIEEI or Nustries a Persian word, denoting 'non-existence,' from nist 'is not,' compounded of the negative na and ast or hast ('est,' is'). As for azhdahā, I supposed that every philologist knew this modern Persian representative of the old Bactrian azhi dahāka, 'the biting snake.' Page 119, "The word lasa would therefore become Page 119, "The word tasa would therefore become jaza, and the Turkish dictionary gives the word jaza, with the signification of 'judgment' or 'retribution.'" This is the Arabic jaza, 'requital, recompense, retribution, reward or punishment. On p.125, Mr. Taylor explains Lemures to mean 'maternal ancestors,' because "the Turkish word li-umm nal ancestors, because "the furkish word traumm means 'on the mother's side,' 'maternal.'" Most unhappily li-umm is Arabic, li being in that language a preposition, meaning 'to,' 'belonging to,' and umm the common word for 'mother,' in Hebrew ēm, Syriac emmā. Page 128, "the Turkish sihhat, 'health,' "is again Arabic, sihhat; and the same is the case with "the Turkish mal, and the same is the case with "the Turkish mal, fortune," p. 130, which is the Arabic māl, a secondary formation from mā li, 'what (belongs) to.' Mr. Taylor explains Camillus to mean 'bearer,' p. 151, and identifies it with the name 'bearer,' p. 151, and identifies it with the name of the animal, the camel. He adds, that "in the Albanian language, which preserves so many Etruscan words" (?), "we have the precise word χαμαλ, a 'carrier,' a 'porter.' This leads us to the Turkish hammal, a 'porter,' a 'carrier,' & c. Unfortunately hammal is an Arabic word, which the Turks borrowed from the Arabs, and the Albanians in their turn from the Turks. As for camel, it is the Greek and Latin form of the Hebrew and Phonician gamal the origin of which Hebrew and Phoenician gamal, the origin of which I cannot here trace. Page 160 affords one of the worst examples of Mr. Taylor's ignorance

of Arabic and Turkish. "In seventeen of the

Tatar dialects belonging to the Turkic family the word bar-mach denotes a 'finger,' and in Turkish mikh-lab means the 'clawed foot' of a bird or animal." Parmak is really the Turkish for 'finger,' but mikhlab is an Arabic noun of instruger, but mikhlab is an Arabic noun of instru-ment, formed, according to a definite rule, from the verb khalaba, 'he cut and rent.' At p. 193, Mr. Taylor is strongly tempted to identify the words NAPER, RAS, and TENE, with "the Turkish numeral adjuncts, nefer, ras, and dane, meaning respectively 'souls,' 'head,' and 'corn,' which are used in the numeration of men, of animals, and of things"; but he cannot set Kasembeg's authority at defiance. In fact, nafar and ras (or rather ra's) are Arabic words, signifying 'persons (from three to ten in number),' and 'head'; whilst dāna is Persian for 'a grain.' Page 204, ajil and ejel are old Arabic words, ājil and ajal, and cannot possibly have anything to do with Turkic or Mongolic sibly have anything to do with Turkic or Mongolic words meaning 'a year.' The same may be said of nessl, 'progeny, race, posterity,' p. 216, more correctly nasl, which occurs in the Kor'ān. Page 235, the "Turkish sag-ird" is in reality a Persian word, shāgird. Page 260, "strength,' force,' is kuvvet in Osmanli," says Mr. Taylor. Very true; but this is merely the Turkish way of pronouncing the Arabic kūwut, from kawiya, 'to be strong,' At p. 290 Mr. Taylor commits a strange mistake in imagining kal-eb, 'a mould,' to be a Turkish word. Kālab or kālib is the Arabic adaptation of the Greek καλάπους or καλόπους. 'a sheemaker's word. Καlα or καlib is the Arabic adaptation of the Greek καλάπους or καλόπους, 'a shoemaker's last,' in general 'a form (forma, Span. horma de zapatero), shape, mould.' Page 295, "the Turkish zanu, 'knee," is in reality Persian, and is identical with γόνν and genu. Page 301, "the Turkish jessed, a 'body," is again an Arabic word, jasad. Page 304, "In Turkish," says Mr. Taylor, "takdim is a 'presentation,' tak-dimmet is to 'present,' lok-met to 'pour out,' and tak-disset to 'consecrate.'" Of these words, tok-met represents, I suppose, Redhouse's "dikmek"; the other three are Arabic. Takdim and takdimat are verbal suppose, Redhouse's "dukmek"; the other three are Arabic. Takdim and takdimat are verbal nouns, formed, according to fixed rule, from one of the conjugations of the radical kadima; and takdis and takdisat are the same forms of the radical kadusa. Both are well-known Hebrew roots. Quid plura?

WM. WRIGHT.

Trieste, March, 1874.

PERHAPS you will allow me a few words con-cerning Mr. Taylor's 'Etruscan Researches' (Lon-don, Macmillan, 1874), as a preliminary to further

The Mongol theory is so valuable, that I can only hope it will be taken up by M. Vámbéry, the highest living authority; and the remarks upon the great tomb-building races, though not new, have much of truth in them. Unhappily, Mr. Taylor has confounded in the simplest way Turkish with Sanskrit and Arabic, Persian, Hindi, and goodness knows how many other languages. By borrowing from some score of Mongol dialects, he has invented a highly composite tongue, which painfully reminds us of "the voice of Israel from Mount Sinai." And he has by no means made the best of the Turkish forms; for instance, the terminal vowels of the past tense, which still survive in Usmanli speech.

The carelessness of the comments is stupendous. Upon the cover, and at p. 367, we find the well-known Trojan horse, and on the right hand the open door. Upon the latter which acts as framework, we read clearly and distinctly HAINS, i.e. Hellenes. Will it be believed that Mr. Taylor (p. 368) assures us that it "bears the unmistakable (B. 305) assetts its that the word (Hlins) has hitherto been dismissed by the commentators as an unintelligible equivalent of Δ ANAOI," and that he indulges us with a whole page about the Huns.
Even if the word were written HVINS, it would still read "Hellenes," for the L in Etruscan has many forms, of which one is V, with the left leg slightly shortened.

Yet the substratum of fact appears to me clear. Eruscan antiquities occupied much of my time in 1852, and I hope soon to apply the Mongol theory to the now well-known cemetery at Bologoa.

XUM

Meanwhile, I would invite Mr. Hyde Clarke to attack the "Caucasic solution" of the Etruscan problem, which Mr. Taylor, though he afterwards "eliminates" it, considers (p. 355) not impossible.

RICHARD F. BURTON.

SHAKSPEARE'S 'EDWARD THE THIRD.'

Maidenhead, March, 1874.

ONE hundred and fourteen years ago Capel printed, in his small volume of 'Prolusions,' the historical play of 'Edward the Third,' announcing it as a work by Shakspeare. Such it undoubtedly is; but when Malone published his 'Supplement' in 1780 he omitted it, thereby discountenancing the notion that it, or any part of it, had proceeded from the pen of our great dramatist. In what follows I am about to state some of the grounds for my entire conviction that Capel was right, and that the play ought to have been included, not only in the Folio of 1623, but in every edition of Shakspeare's productions from that day to the present.

I have taken considerable pains with the subject, and, in my opinion, it is worthy of all the labours of the best of our Shakspearean scholars, whether on this or on the other side of the Atlantic. I shall be as brief as possible, and I hope to avoid mistakes; but it is not pleasant, when walking, to know that there is somebody close behind anxious to trip up one's heels. Let us all humbly strive to attain the same end; and no man ought to feel more humble than even the ablest commentator

on Shakspeare. What a fly is he on the wheel!

'Edward the Third' was first printed in 1596, a year earlier than any known play by Shakspeare, and it was reprinted for the same bookseller (Cuthbert Burby, or perhaps Burbadge) in 1599; in the interval came out Shakspeare's 'Richard the Second,' 'Richard the Third,' 'Romeo and Juliet,' (all three in 1597), 'Love's Labour's Lost' and 'The First Part of Henry the Fourth' in 1598. All the rest appeared in 1600 or afterwards. The second impression of 'Edward the Third' bears date in 1599, when, as far as we are aware, no drama by Shakspeare was originally issued; it was anonymous in both instances, and so were Shakspeare's 'Richard the Second' and 'Richard the Third' in their first editions of 1597. The same reason for the non-appearance of the author's name might apply in 1596 as in 1597; and it was not until 1598 that Shakspeare's name was prefixed to 'Richard the Second' and 'Richard the Third.' The causes why dramatic authorship was at that date avowed or unavowed are but very imperfectly if at all understood.

perfectly, if at all, understood.

In attributing 'Edward the Third' to Shakspeare, I rely confidently not more upon particular passages and expressions, than upon the whole spirit and character of the performance. Capel did not assign a single reason, whether general or special, admitting at the same time that there was no external evidence upon the point. I rely upon internal evidence only; and I defy anybody at all acquainted with the style and language of our great dramatist to read 'Edward the Third' from end to end without arriving at the decision that it must have been the work of Shakspeare, and of no other poet. I shall not make extracts to establish this general proposition, but content myself with a few quotations, which, as I contend, lead by a different road to the very gate of truth.

Let it be borne in mind always that no printed play by Shakspeare is so old by a year as 'Edward the Third.' In act ii. sc. 1 we read as follows: the Countess of Salisbury is persuading the King to relinquish his suit to her to be faithless to her husband's bed, and she asks,

Will your sacred self Commit high treason 'gainst the King of heaven, To stamp his image in forbidden metal?

In 'Measure for Measure,' act ii. sc. 4, Angelo tells Isabella that he will not, as a judge,

remit
Their saucy sweetness that do coin heaven's image
In stamps that are forbid.

Everybody must remember the dispute among

commentators as to the words in 'Hamlet,' act it. sc. 2, "a good kissing carrion," Warburton contending that they should be "a god kissing carrion"; and he was right, though opposed to all the old copies, where we read "For if the sun breed maggots in a dead dog, being a good kissing carrion," &c.

In 'Edward the Third' we find the following lines given to Warwick:—

The freshest summer's day doth soonest taint The loathed carrion that it seems to kiss.

Again, in 'The Merchant of Venice,' act iv. sc. 1, we have this passage:—

And earthly power doth then show likest God's, When mercy seasons justice.

'Edward the Third' contains the subsequent couplet:—

And kings approach the nearest unto God In giving life and safety unto men.

Deloney published his novel of 'Jack of Newbery' in the same year as 'Edward the Third,' and there we find even a still closer copy: "Herein do men come nearest unto God in shewing mercy and compassion."

Everybody is so well acquainted with the famous character of Prince Henry given by the Archbishop in 'Henry the Fifth' that I need not quote it; but I ask any reader to compare with it the subsequent impassioned lines on the Countess of Salisbury, put into the mouth of Edward, and to say if they could proceed from any pen but that of Shakspeare.

shake peare.

When she would talk of peace, methinks her tongue Commanded war to prison; when of war, it waken'd Cesar from his Roman grave To hear war beautified by her discourse. Wisdom is foolishness but in her tongue; Beauty a slander but in her fair face; Three is no summer but in her cheerful looks, No frosty winter but in her disdain.

Who could have written this and a great deal more in this play but Shakspeare? I might quote the whole quarto, for it is all his.

It contains also allusions to contemporaneous works. Marlowe's 'Hero and Leander' was not printed (as far as is now known) until 1598, but many manuscript copies of so famous a production were in circulation before 1596, and, in reference to the story, the succeeding lines are put into the mouth of Edward the Third, speaking of the object of his passion:—

ne object of his passion:—
Fairer thou art by far than Hero was;
Beardless Leander not so strong as I:
He swom an easy current for his love;
But I will through a Hellespont of blood
Arrive at Sestos where my Hero is.

Hellespont is absurdly misprinted Helly spout in both the old copies of 'Edward the Third,' for I have collated them throughout. But this is not the only reference to a popular poem, though nobody (least of all, perhaps, Capel) has hitherto understood it, or the high interest attached to it.

Shakspeare's 'Lucrece' had been printed in 1594, two years before 'Edward the Third' came from the press. The Countess of Salisbury has thrown herself at the King's feet, and is threatening to stab herself rather than submit to his lawless passion; Edward, overcome by her virtue and courage, and resolving to conquer his hopeless folly, thus exclaims, alluding clearly to Shakspeare's own 'Lucrece,' then in the height of its popularity:—

Arise, true English lady; whom our isle May better boast of, than e'er Roman might of her, whose ransack'd treasury hath task'd The vain endeavour of so many pens.

Surely this allusion is evident enough, and immediately connects Shakepeare with the admirable play under consideration. After what I have said, I need not dwell upon particular passages of poetry; but I cannot deny myself the pleasure of quoting a few lines where Edward instructs his secretary-poet thus to address in verse the lady upon whom the King dotes:—

Out with the moon-line! I will none of it,
And let me have her liken'd to the sun:
Say, she hath thrice more splendour than the sun:
That her perfection emulates the sun,
That she breeds aweets as plenteous as the sun;
That she doth thaw cold winter like the sun,
That she doth cheer fresh summer like the sun,
That she doth dazzle gazers like the sun:
And in this application of the sun,
Bid her be free and general as the sun,

Who smiles upon the basest weed that grows As lovingly as on the fragrant rose,

The three last acts of the drama are devoted to the wars in France, and to the victories of Cressy and Poictiers, all conducted with true Shakspearean energy and vigour, and concluding with the delivery of the burgesses of Calais from their halters by the intercession of the Queen. Nothing can be finer in its way, but the play must have taken long in the representation. This portion of the subject is, of course, from Holinshed, while the love-scenes of the first two acts are from 'The Palace of Pleasure,' a book so often used by Shakspeare.

It seems wonderful that so little attention has ever been paid to this noble historical drama; for I cannot call to mind any allusion to it either in ancient or more modern times. It ought to have preceded 'Richard the Second' in the folios, and in every other edition of Shakspeare. It is no doubtful play. If instead of such paltry work as picking holes in old coats, the New Shakspere Society would reprint this grand historical drama, they would confer a lasting benefit upon our early theatrical literature, and nobody would be more thankful than

P.S. Some years ago a proposal was made to me to collect and correct all the old plays attributed on any authority to Shakspeare, but even then I found my failing energies and industry unequal to the task: I, however, collated several, including the two impressions of 'Edward the Third' in 1596 and 1599, both in the library of the Duke of Devonshire; and besides the few I have here pointed out, that single drama contains many other parallels and illustrations of quite as much importance. Let the New Shakspere Society set boldly to work, and reprint all those imputed plays.

LORD ELLENBOROUGH.

In the review, in your number for March 14, of the Correspondence of Lord Ellenborough, published by me, two charges are brought against his memory. One is, that he concocted an "artful scheme" evade responsibility in his orders to Generals Nott and Pollock as to the campaign of 1842. This view has, I know, already been started by vehement partisans of Sir George Pollock, and writers closely connected with Lord Ellenborough's opponents in the old Board of Directors. If true, it would entirely deprive him of that claim to be considered a high-minded and honourable statesman, which the reviewer himself seems to allow him. And what does this injurious interpretation rest upon? It is clear that, as his letters show, he regarded a march on Cabul from the first as a hazardous enterprise. Another disaster like that of the Khyber and our Empire was, in his opinion, lost. But when, by that energy for which your reviewer gives him credit, he had remedied many deficiencies in the condition of the armies as to supplies and means of transport, when partial successes had raised their spirit, he did not feel justified in absolutely forbidding, against the opinion or without the support of the opinion of the Generals, an advance, which, if successful, would produce such valuable results. To one thing only he was always opposed, any concession to the views of a section of "politicals" which might entangle us in permanent engagements as to Afghan affairs. This may have been right or wrong, but does it justify an assumption of "disingenuousness and shrinking from responsibility," which you admit to have been "alien from his character."

The second charge, of "believing he could teach war-worn Generals their art," especially referring, it seems, to the China operations, seems to me to confute the former. Were Nott and Pollock so different from Gough in capacity that it was "disingenuous" to leave any discretion to the two former, and impertinence to interfere with the latter? But with reference to China, Lord Ellenborough possessed special information, derived from one of the very few Englishmen then familiar with the waters of the Yang-tse Kiang. My father, the late Lord Colchester, had surveyed

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it in the year 1817. His memorandum, referred to in the Correspondence, suggested the scheme to in the Correspondence, suggested the scheme by which China was so speedily compelled to accept a peace. Lord Ellenborough had, therefore, ample reason to urge the adoption of a plan of invasion founded on fuller knowledge than that of those who advocated a counter scheme.

COLCHESTER.

*** It would require several quotations to show ever, we think will appear well founded by all who read Mr. Low's Life of Sir George Pollock. Lord Ellenborough, we contend, did not allow either Nott or Pollock any discretion, but was perpetually meddling. He positively forbade an advance, and when he began to see he was wrong, he gave Nott "the option of retiring upon General Pollock by Ghuzni and Cabul"! Would any one have talked in this fashion who was willing to take a full share of the blame, had a disaster occurred?

MR. ALBERT WAY.

THE obituary of the week contains a name that demands more than a passing notice in our columns. For upwards of thirty years Albert Way has been known throughout the United Kingdom, and very extensively upon the Continent, as one of the most accomplished of correspondents and indefatigable of antiquaries. There is scarcely a subject of historical inquiry, during the period we have named, relating to his own country, or one of archeological investigation in a still wider field, to which his attention had not been drawn, and upon which he had not, at some time or other, contributed the results of his very extended and careful reading, or of his minute and critical examination. To see what those subjects were, it is true that one has to go to works that cannot be classed as "popular," since they are chiefly contained in the pages of the Archeolegia of the Society of Antiquaries, the Journal of the Archeological Institute, Notes and Queries, and the Proceedings of provincial archeological societies. But Mr. Way was one of the first to labour for the reversion of the verdict passed by Dr. Arnold (with too much justice, it must be owned) upon the pursuits of antiquaries of the earlier part of this century, and was one of the most successful in bringing about that result.

Albert Way was born at Bath, on June 23rd, 1805. He was the only son of the Rev. Lewis Way, a gentleman who attained some distinction by his philanthropic labours (for the better execu-tion of which he "took orders" late in life), and tion of which he "took orders" late in life), and especially exerted himself for the conversion of the Jews. While so engaged, he travelled far and wide, and on those occasions he was generally accompanied by his son. Upon these objects he spent large sums of money; but then he had large sums of money to spend, as, besides his own handsome fortune, he became the possessor of a considerable sum in what might be thought a romantic manner, but which need not be related here. So rich was he, that by many of his friends he was called "Louis d'Or." Lewis Way was intimate with Wilberforce, and with men of that frame of mind the public schools of the country were not then in favour. So Albert Way and the sons of Wilberforce were educated under their parental roofs till they went to college, and no two men continued faster friends than Mr. Way and the late Bishop of Winchester.

The Ways lived much abroad. At that time there was no English Protestant church in Paris, and Lewis Way supplied one, with the approval of the English ambassador, by allowing his drawing-room, in the Hôtel Marbœuf, to be so used until he had built a church in the Place Marbœuf. The very last act of Albert Way was to complete the arrangements which had been rendered necessary by the rebuilding of that church, owing to the reconstruction of that part of Paris.

Shortly after taking his degree at Trinity College, Cambridge, Albert Way joined the Society of Antiquaries, and soon brought forward an account of the discovery of the heart of Richard

the First, which had been found at Rouen. He devoted himself earnestly to the study of antiquities, and contributed several memoirs to the Archwo-logia. In 1843 he was chosen Director of the Society, and held the office till 1846. His administration was signalized by great energy and the introduction of many improvements, including the making of a Catalogue of the Museum of the Society. About the very 1844 he experted of the Society. About the year 1844 he exerted himself to extend the general appreciation of antiquarian pursuits; and a meeting, which was to be the first of a series, organized upon the model of those of the British Association for the Advancement of Science, was held at Canterbury expressly for the study and consideration of archeological for the study and consideration of archeological objects. Dissensions unfortunately crept in, and "The Way party," as some called the larger portion of the gathering at Canterbury, held their next meeting in Winchester, in 1845, under the title of the "Archeological Institute of Great Britain and Ireland," and under conditions of the highest success. Nearly all the distinguished names of the time in any branch of study connected with antiquarian pursuits are to be found names of the time in any branch of sound con-nected with antiquarian pursuits are to be found among those who worked with Mr. Way. To the interests of the "Archeological Institute" nearly all Mr. Way's subsequent labours were devoted. His contributions to the Journal of the Institute are, as might be expected, exceedingly numerous and varied, and he continued the acting editor of and varied, and he continued the acting editor of the work till a few years ago. His last memoir in its pages was published in the early part of last year, under the title of 'Notes on an Unique Implement of Flint, found, as stated, in the Isle of Wight.' But it was, perhaps, in relation to a most extended correspondence that Albert Way is chiefly known, and will be chiefly missed. Gifted with a most ready pen, to which the right word appeared always to come at the right time and place, possessed of an almost encyclopædiac acplace, possessed of an almost encyclopediac ac-quaintance with archeology in all its branches, his letters will long be prized by his large circle of correspondents, as well for their style as for the value of their contents. And, consulted as he was upon almost every subject that was discussed in the Archeological Journal, none but (perhaps) the fortunate recipient knew the extent to which the memoir contributed by him had benefited by the editor's suggestions. Besides his contributions to the Journal, his more important works were the arrangement and editing of Sir Samuel Meyrick's book upon Ancient Armour, and the editing of the 'Promptorium Parvulorum' for the Camden Society, a work remarkable for its varied learning and minute criticism. But Mr. Way's sympathies were not entirely absorbed by the "Institute," as he did a great deal to encourage Provincial Societies having similar objects in view. Having acquired his estate at Wonham shortly after his marriage, he there formed a considerable collection of objects of art and virtù, in which he took great delight. Ever somewhat delicate in constitution, he was of the most genial disposition and charming manners, and was always seeking for the oppor-tunity of doing some kind and benevolent action. In 1844 he married his cousin Emmeline, youngest daughter of the late Lord Stanley of Alderley, who survives him, and by whom he leaves a daughter.

NOTES FROM BERLIN.

SINCE the glorious war of 1870-71, no intelligent man can seriously ask the question of the cele-brated song, "Was ist des Deutschen Vaterland?" We know now, and all the world knows too; but when Auerbach calls his new novel 'Waldfried: eine Vaterländische Familiengeschichte,' even we Germans begin to inquire, Ubi terrarum?

For the novel must have a definite, sharply limited terrain, even if the hero be a Ulysses; and Germany has become so large, that very many his-tories can be enacted on her soil, all of which have a claim to the epithet Vaterlandisch, and are yet about as like one to the other as green to red, sour to sweet, the vine-clad banks of the Rhine to the dreary flats of the Vistula, the bare flat shores of

the North Sea to the wooded heights of the Black

This great difference in soils, which corresponds with the difference in the inhabitants, has always been at once an advantage and a hindrance to German novelists,—an advantage, as it has given them an unusual wealth of historical, social, and local an unusual wealth of historical, social, and local motive; a hindrance, as this very wealth has made it difficult, or rather impossible, for the best writers to form a school, and for the minor ones to study in a school. It has deprived them, great and little, of the chance of having a large public, and has, at best, condemned them to the precarious enjoyment of a local celebrity. You may say the same applies also to England and France; that the North-German sailor cannot be more unlike the Bavarian mountaineer than the fisherman of the Orkney Islands is unlike the Wiltshire yeoman, or the Breton peasant to the vine-dresser of Languedoc. Granted. But there is, or was till now, a great distinction. England and France have a centre which is strong enough to paralyze have a centre which is strong enough to paralyze the centrifugal forces; Germany had not, and, in a literary and artistic sense, has to this day nothing of the kind. A novel which proves a success in London is read all over England; a novel which proves a success in Paris is read all over France; but a novel may make a sensation in Berlin without anybody's speaking of it in Vienna, and vice versā. But the causes that impede the free circulation of a novel in Germany, tend to prevent it from finding readers outside Germany, just as the similarity observable in English novels, and also in French novels, promotes their circulation in Germany. Over the thresholds of how many par-sonage-houses have we not stepped since worthy Mr. Primrose invited us to enter his house? And so it is the same Paris, or, if not the same Paris, the same Parisian salon, and Parisian morality, or immo-rality, from 'Faublas' down to the 'Femme de Feu.' But the German novel! Poor Peter Schlemihl, thou that couldst wander over the whole earth without that couldst wander over the whole earth without casting a shadow. And no wonder, men say, for thou hast no body. No body! when thou hast, like Proteus, countless bodies. To-day thou art a panther, to-morrow a lion; the third time, a palm that reaches to the clouds; the fourth time, water that flows over all lands. Verily, to conquer water that hows over all lands. Verily, to conquer a Proteus is a task that gives a claim on men's gratitude, but requires trouble and time, and who has time now-a-days? Who can give time to anything that cannot be expressed so or so in figures?

To return: the newest novel of Herr Auerbach is Vaterländische Familiengeschichte, the scene of which is laid in a small corner of the great Fatherwhich is laid in a small corner of the great rather-land, where, opposite Strasbourg, the kingdom of Würtemberg cuts tolerably deeply into the Grand Duchy of Baden, or, to speak in the terms of physical geographers, where one of the western spurs of the Black Forest stretches into the Rhine Valley. A foreigner, when reading the book, must bear this in mind, or he will make serious mistakes. He will be apt, for example, to suppose that the characters are types of German nature; that the characters are types of German nature; that their morals, manners, and modes of speech repeat themselves through all Germany; but I, as a North German, can assure you that in many of these respects the book is as foreign to me as to the most English of Englishmen. The South German has in his nature a something which he himself styles Gutmüthigkeit, Naïvetät, but to himself styles Gutmutingkeit, Naiveiat, but to which the North German gives quite other names, for those qualities are different with him. The North German is essentially aristocratic. He is either master or servant,—but what he is, that he is thoroughly. The master does not condescend to the level of the servant; the servant has no ambition to imitate the master. Imagine, then, the astonishment of my North German countrymen, and of the English, too, I imagine, when they read in Herr Auerbach's novel that a wealthy squire, n Herr Auerbach's novel that a wealthy squire, who has had a University education, and has repeatedly filled important public offices,—who, in a political crisis, that is fully detailed in the book, has been offered the post of Prime Minister (of course of his own state, I beg you not to forget that),—well, that this man uses "Du" to his

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neighbours and they to him, and stands on a footing with them that reminds me of the patriarchal intercourse of Ulysses with his godlike swineherd. In the house of the worthy heroes of the story is a room which is filled with casts of the best ancient works of art, so that it looks like a small museum, and is called Athens by the owners. In the evening, a Greek tragedy (let us hope in a translation) is read out. The faithful old servant is regularly present, and as regularly sleeps through the performance—upon the bench by the stove. To bring these heterogeneous elements together is, for us North Germans, no easy task. Among us, a benck by the stove is not found in houses which have rooms filled with sculpture, and perhaps foreigners are still better off than we in this respect. They, at any rate, will conclude that in Germany master and servant live in the same rooms, and that their common evening entertainment is the reading of Sophocles and Euripides, only with the difference that the masters read, and the servants sleep—by

To speak seriously, the story is incomprehensible and impossible, the moment one thinks of it as transplanted to North Germany. What is the story? This is an easy question to ask and a difficult one to answer when one is speaking of a long novel: not one which seems long, but which is quite a slight story, concealed in a huge mass of history and anecdotes, like 'Quatrevingt-Treize,' but one like 'Mid-dlemarch'! 'Middlemarch' is not the essence of the purest epic poetry; but, even when one has deducted all that the author, privately and confidentially, tells the reader about her characters,—and that is a good deal,—there still remains enough over to prove pretty troublesome, even to a judge whose daily occupation it is to sum up in com-plicated cases. It is the same with 'Waldfried,' which fills three tolerably thick volumes, and is a long novel in consequence of the great number of characters that are introduced, and the quantity of public and private occurrences which the author has endeavoured to bring in, to develope, and to portray. His aim has been to illustrate, and by the fortunes of a family,—which, in their turn, are illustrated by the characters of the heads of the family,—the history of Germany from 1848 to the present day. The paterfamilias recounts in the first person his own story and that of his rela-tives; and the tale might be called 'The Family of Waldfried,' or 'Mr. Waldfried and his Family.' The family is by no means a small one. There are three sons and four daughters. One of the latter is dead by the time the tale begins, but her husband has married again, and remains an important member of the family. The sons, of course, have either married or might have married, and the daughters too. Of the marriages children have been born, who at the time the novel opens are already grown up; so that by the end of the book the author can make his hero happy as a great-grandfather. And besides all these people, whose names even it is a hard task to remember, there are a number of subordinate characters-quite a little nation, in

This was really unavoidable, if the little nation was to prove a mirror of the great nation. In fact, as one or other of the members of the family is in each case involved, every important event in the last five-and-twenty years of German history comes on the tapis. The eldest son has been one of the insurgents of '48, who inscribed on their banners the Frankfort "Grundrechte," and at times also the Republic, and has been obliged to fly to America. A second son is a Professor, and represents the learned element, and its share in the struggles of the time. The youngest, not the least important character in the book, cannot endure the contest in '66, in which the South German patriots were worsted; and four years later atones for his desertion of the colours by a heroic death in a battle against the hereditary enemy. Then a son-in-law is an officer in the Würtemberg army, and he also has to take his share of the fights of 1866 and 1870; while a daughter is married in France, in Alsace, and through 1870 again becomes German. You see,

it is a whole world that the author sets in motion.

Has he really understood how to set it in motion? I might and could answer this question with an unqualified "Yes," but ("but is reflection," says Thackeray) I fear my "Yes" will be "sicklied o'er with the pale cast of thought," which, for that matter, pervades the book. Not that the tale is devoid of "enterprises of great pith and moment," but-that terrible "but" comes in again. The form of the book is the same as that of the 'Vicar of Wakefield,' of 'Tristram Shandy,' 'Pelham,' 'Pendennis,' 'David Copperfield.' No form is better fitted to embrace a miscellaneous mass of matter such as is put before us; but under one condition. The author must understand how to step on with seven-leagued boots at times, in order, where need is, to be able to dwell on individual points. For these particulars and this full surrender to his material are expected of the author. When Copper-field describes to us his wooing of Dora, it must not occur to us that he who writes those delicious foolish pages has, I don't know how many years after, married Agnes. And here, in my opinion, Herr Auerbach has failed. The death of the hero's wife, and his sorrow; the scenes in the cabinet of the Prince; the deaths of Ernst and Martella on the battle-field,—these are certainly masterpieces of true epic art; but they are only isolated passages, which cannot recompense us for the lack of concise rapid narrative. It is sadly trying at last to the patience to have to wade, for three volumes, through the rubbish of a garrulous old man's diary. The English public is already disposed to regard German novels as not interesting, and I am afraid that its prejudice will not be overcome by Herr Auerbach's book. A prejudice it is, and a prejudice it remains. It is, indeed, in-eradicable, if people will judge the whole contemporary literature of a great and highly-gifted nation from two or three books which they have read in the course of their lives, and which, perhaps, were really tiresome. Are there not such books in every literature? I can pledge myself to give you a long list—but no,—I would not, for all the world, vex you, and I have no inclination to make an "Oratio pro Domo." FRIEDERICH SPIELHAGEN.

Literary Gossip.

A VOLUME of poems by George Eliot is in the press, and will shortly be issued by Messrs. Blackwood & Sons.

MR. R. W. EMERSON has allowed himself to be nominated as a candidate for the Lord Rectorship of the University of Glasgow.

DR. JOHN STUART, of the General Register House, Edinburgh, has in preparation, 'Observations on the Law and Practice in Scotland relating to Dispensation for Marriage, with special reference to the Dispensation for the Marriage of James, Earl of Bothwell, with Lady Jean Gordon, in 1565.' The volume will include various records hitherto unprinted, and will be illustrated by a facsimile, from the original at Dunrobin, of the dispensation referred to, with a likeness of Lady Jean Gordon, from the contemporary portrait in the collection of His Grace the Duke of Sutherland, at Dunrobin.

WE understand that Messrs. Henry S. King & Co. are about to issue a cheap edition of the Laureate's works, in ten monthly volumes, to be entitled "The Cabinet Edition."

MESSRS. HURST & BLACKETT'S forthcoming novels are, a new story, from the pen of Mrs. Oliphant, entitled 'For Love and Life,' and 'Claude Meadowleigh: Artist,' by Capt. M.

MR. PERCY FITZGERALD is editing a new edition, in three volumes, of Boswell's 'Life

of Dr. Johnson.' Boswell issued two editions of his book, the first in 1791, the second in 1793. At his death, when the preparation of a third edition had just begun, Malone took up the task, and under his supervision no less than four editions were issued. The sixth, or fourth from the author's death, was issued in 1811, and was the last superintended by Malone, who died in that year. From the date of his death this edition remained the standard one, until the year 1831, when it was supplanted by Croker's edition in five volumes, which under various forms has held its place until the present moment. Malone's and Croker's are substantially the groundwork upon which all succeeding editors have worked. Malone seriously exceeded the privileges of his literary executorship in converting notes into text and vice versa, in shifting the place of notes, and "revising" the text itself. These changes were not very material as to substance, but still such a mode of "settling the text," as it was called, pursued through a whole series of editions, could only result in a serious departure from the original. Malone, indeed, announced in his advertisements, that "every new remark, not written by the author," together with "the letters now introduced, are carefully included within crotchets, that the author may not be answerable for anything which has not the sanction of his approbation." This system, however, has long since been abandoned, and in the modern editions we find the author jostling with a crowd of intruders-Croker, Malone, Blakeway, Kearney-his annotations being also labelled with his own name, as though he had been introduced, like them. Even the decency of "enclosing between crotchets" had been dropped. Croker's performance was nearly unique in the annals of editing. Not only did he make interpolations in the text on a vast scale, but he overloaded the whole with elaborate notes. Obscure allusions explained, biographies furnished, blanks filled up, mistakes corrected, opinions, either of Boswell or of Johnson, refuted in controversial style, contemporary authors largely quoted, and political opinions and prejudices duly ventilated-these were but a tithe of the Crokerian contribution. This extraordinary treatment of an author was long ago exposed by Mr. Carlyle. Croker admitted his mistake, and in a later edition withdrew the bulk of the intruded matter. Yet he could not bring himself to sacrifice the whole of the foreign element; and the work still includes masses of Thrale and other letters, diaries, and the like. But he did not stop there, and a diligent examination warrants us in saying that he has tampered with the text. Letters have been transposed, and shifted here and there, on account of some assumed inconsistency; dates have been altered, notes rewritten, cut up, and distributed, or altogether omitted; while, with an overstrained delicacy, adjectives, of a somewhat coarse flavour, have been struck out, and others substituted. In this new edition, the reader will have the original text of Boswell's first edition exactly as it was printed, with the old spelling, punctuation, paragraphs, &c. Text, notes, and alterations will now, for the first time, be given complete, distinct, and fenced off, as it were, from such notes and illustrations as are supplied from other sources. Many of these

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additions are from original MS., and a large portion have never made their appearance in any edition of Boswell's 'Johnson.

THE friends of the late Prof. W. J. Macquorn Rankine, of the Glasgow University, will be glad to learn that his 'Songs and Fables' are about to be published by Mr. Maclehose, of Glasgow. Mrs. Blackburn (J. B.) illustrates the Fables in ten pictures.

DR. FARRAR'S 'Life of Christ' will be ready for publication early in May.

THE little volume of 'Lyrics,' by the late Mr. George Outram, noticed two weeks ago in our columns, will shortly be in a third edition. The late Dr. Robert Chambers is said to have written a reply, which was never published, to the 'Annuity,' the poem the introduction to which we quoted. The MS. was in a copy of the privately printed edition of the 'Lyrics, sold at the sale of Dr. Chambers's books.

MR. CROSBY LOCKWOOD writes to us :-

"As a resident in the neighbourhood of Stoke Newington, and often walking past its little old-fashioned, picturesque church (over-shadowed and eclipsed by the modern one which has been reared on the opposite side of the road), I have often regretted to see the sadly neglected and dilapi-dated state of Mrs. Barbauld's tomb, which faces the footway along the high road, and of which a great part of the inscription is barely legible. Five pounds would, I imagine, thoroughly restore it, as it is a mere question of a little brick-work and pointing, scraping or cleansing the stone slab and tablet, and re-writing the inscription. Perhaps the poetess's great-niece might think it worth while, out of the profits, if any, of her 'Memoir,' or out of the same funds which were available for its production, to devote a small sum to this object. If subscriptions were at all necessary, I should be glad to contribute a tithe of the sum I suggest above. As publisher of French versions of Mrs. Barbauld's 'Lessons for Children' and 'Hymns in Prose,' which still maintain their place in juvenile schools as early French lesson books, I feel an interest in the matter beyond the asthetic one of a desire to remove or remedy what offends my eye as a passer-by."

THE case of Gatty v. Pawson & Brailsford, which possesses much interest for authors and publishers, and which has been in Chancery for several years, has just been decided by Lords Justices James and Mellish. Shortly after the death of Mr. Hunter, the historian of Hallamshire, which occurred in 1861, Messrs. Pawson & Brailsford, who are booksellers in Sheffield, decided on issuing a new edition of Hunter's ' Hallamshire,' the copyright of which had expired, and they arranged with the Rev. J. Eastwood, a gentleman residing near Sheffield, to edit it; but before the work was begun he died. Eventually, Dr. Gatty, the well-known author, became the editor, and, after about four years' labour, the book was issued in 1868. Prospectuses had been sent out, and canvassers employed, by Messrs. Pawson & Brailsford as the publishers, and a large number of subscribers was obtained. The printing and "getting-up" of the book drifted into Dr. Gatty's hands, and he employed Messrs. Virtue & Co. to print it. No special agreement as between author and pub-

publishers were read in Court. After hearing evidence the Lords Justices decided that Messrs. Pawson & Brailsford were entitled to 10 per cent. only on the amount of their sales, and besides a small sum for costs actually incurred in printing prospectuses, &c. The defendants were condemned in costs.

WE regret to notice the death, on the 18th inst., of Mary Wilson, the second daughter of "Christopher North," and the widow of the late John Thomson Gordon, Sheriff of Midlothian. Mrs. Gordon's life of her gifted father, published in 1862, is not a work of much literary merit, but, from the interest of the subject, it went through several editions. Few men who wrote so much ever left behind them such scanty material for biography as did Prof. Wilson. Mrs. Gordon's elder sister, the widow of the late Prof. Ferrier, survives

OWING to difficulties in meeting the views of the Scotch Education Department, scarcely any building has yet been done under the New Education Act in Scotland. At a conference of representatives from the principal Boards throughout Scotland, held lately at Glasgow, resolutions were passed condemna-tory of the plans of schools insisted on by the Department, principally on the score of expense; and a deputation was appointed to wait on the heads of the Department and the Scotch Members of Parliament, with a view to having the plans modified by fresh legis-

A MEMORIAL has just been presented to the Scotch Education Board by the Educational Institute for Scotland, in which the Memorialists state that, having studied with care the working of the recent Education Act, they are convinced that it requires amendment on the following points:-1, there should be a permanent Board of Education in Scotland, which would be a Court of Final Appeal from Local Boards; 2, that teachers dismissed by Local Boards should have the right of appeal to the Central Board; 3, that teachers holding appointments at the time of the passing of the Act should not be dismissed, nor the annual grant stopped, except on the reports of two inspectors; 4, that Clause 61 should be altered, so that teachers who have taught for ten years may retire on an allowance of not less than one-sixth part of their emolument, and that one-sixtieth part of said emolument should be added for each additional year's service, the whole not to exceed one-half.

WE are sorry to hear of the death of Mr. Thomas Thorpe, son of the late Mr. Thorpe, bookseller, of Bedford Street, Covent Garden. He was well known for his extraordinary knowledge of Early English literature. He had acted for twenty years as librarian to Mr. Christie-Miller, and catalogued his curious collection, which is in process of printing, and he was engaged upon the correction of the proofs of the Chiswick Press at the time of his death.

A Correspondent writes to us :-

read,- 'The wide circumference of an elaborate read,— The wide circumference of an elaborate ruff.... caused his head to look not a little like that of John the Baptist in a charger? At page 28 of a novel I read a week ago, called 'The Surgeon's Secret,' I discovered a sombre face, 'resting on an immense ruff, like the Baptist's head on a on an immense ruit, thee the Bapust's head on a charger.' And yet again, at page 118, vol. iii., of a recently published novel, called 'The Mystery of Ashleigh Manor,' I perceive 'an old dame, in a big ruff, like the Baptist's head in a charger'!!!' 'Talk of coincidences, sir!' says the Militia Captain, in 'A Man made of Money.'"

BIBLIOGRAPHERS and London topographers will be sorry to hear that the large old house on Chiswick Mall, sometimes called the Manor House, and known as the original seat of the Chiswick Press, so famous in typographical history, has been pulled down, and its materials sold. This building was formerly an appanage sold. This building was formerly an appanage to Westminster School, and was used, we believe, as a sanitarium, as it was sometimes called a "Pest-House." It is, or was, the property of Westminster School. Some architectural remains and carving, said to be of Norman character, have been excavated on the site, parts of an ancient structure.

According to the Journal Général de l'Imprimerie et de la Librairie, the production of the press in France last year was 11,530 books, 3,403 musical compositions, 2,156 engravings, photographs, lithographs, and maps.

M. C. PAILLARD is preparing an elaborate history of Valenciennes, and of the part it took in the disturbances of the Netherlands. The first volume will shortly appear. In the meantime the author has issued, as a sort of introduction, 'Considérations sur les Causes Générales des Troubles des Pays-Bas au XVIº Siècle.'

COUNT ALEXANDRE APPONYI, son of the Austrian Ambassador, formerly in London, now in Paris, has been elected Foreign Associate of the Société des Bibliophiles Français, to replace the late M. Beauchesne.

On the 9th inst., at Paris, a bust of the first Parisian printer, Ulrich Gering, was inaugurated at the library of Sainte Geneviève, by M. de Fourtou, Minister of Public In-struction, assisted by M. Ferdinand Denis, Keeper of the Library, and by several representatives of the printing and publishing interests in Paris. M. Denis gave an interesting sketch of the life of Gering. The bust is the work of M. J. Daumas, and has been well executed. It has been placed at the foot of the staircase leading to the first story. It is now rather more than four centuries since printing was introduced into Paris, the first book having been printed without date, but in or about the year 1470. This was 'Gasparini Pergamensis Epistolæ,' in the colophon of which appear these lines, containing the Christian names of the three printers :-

Primos ecce libros, quos hæc industria finxit Francorum in terris, ædibus atque tuis. Michael, Udalricus, Martinusque magistri Hos impresserunt, ac facient alios.

The full names of these printers were Michael Friburger, Ulrich Gering, and Martin Crantz, lishers was made, and when the book was ready, the question as to the remuneration of the publishers arose, they contending that threatens to be hunted to death. Between the years 1758-65, Oliver Goldsmith, in that charming essay of his, 'A Reverie at the Boar's-Head Tavern, Eastcheap,' wrote,—'A monstrous ruff was put round her neck, so that her head entitled to the bookseller's profit also. Numerous affidavits, pro and con, from eminent we expect to see a statue or even a bust of him in the British Museum?

WE learn from the Allgemeine Zeitung that the Prussian Government has made a grant to Dr. Hirschfeld, who is undertaking a journey for purposes of archæological research in the interior of Asia Minor. A typographical atlas of Athens and Attica, edited by Dr. E. Curtius, is, according to the same journal, in preparation.

THE "Lotos Club" of New York has a volume in preparation, the production of the members of the club, to be called 'Lotos Leaves.'

Mr. W. F. Ainsworth, the editor of Colburn's New Monthly Magazine, writes to us, under date March 24:—

"Mr. H. B. Goold's communication escaped my notice until my attention was called to it this day, or I would have replied to it before. The 'Moorish Physician's Parchment 'was sent in by a lady, and I regret to say I had not any idea of its being a translation when I accepted it for publication. I cannot divulge the name without sanction; and, unfortunately, the lady resides in Ireland, so that it will take time to obtain an explanation; but I can assure Mr. Goold it was quite an oversight as far as I am concerned."

WE are requested to state that the London Bible Warehouse, at 53, Paternoster Row, hitherto conducted by Mr. Henry Frowde, will, in future, be carried on by the same proprietors under the title of Frowd & Co.

We have received a communication from Mr. Hayes Ward, of New York, in reply to a letter of Dr. Hyde Clarke's. We have not space to print the letter in full, but we shall endeavour to give the principal passage next week.

SCIENCE

The Birth of Chemistry, By G. F. Rodwell. (Macmillan & Co.)

WHEN was Chemistry born? It is somewhat difficult to answer this question. The germ from which chemistry was eventually developed may have had its origin in the remotest antiquity, but the production of the primitive cell may have been ages before the birth of the science, which may be regarded as the result of the aggregation of an infinite number of cells. M. Wurtz says, "Chemistry is a French science. It was instituted by Lavoisier of immortal memory." Lavoisier released Chemistry from the swaddling clothes of Alchemy, in which the young science was long struggling, and gave it an independent existence. Mr. Rodwell writes, "The time when the founda-tion-stone was laid is too remote to be even suggested." We do not think so. A pile of bricks do not constitute a building. Mountains of facts do not make a science. the earliest days, men were compelled by the necessities of their existence to be accumulating facts; but these cannot be regarded as the foundation of a science. They were the materials out of which one master-mind formed a foundation, upon which other master-minds raised the superstructure. The birth of Chemistry cannot be said to have taken place, until, out of the empirical processes introduced into Europe by the Arabian physicians, and continued, in an equally empirical manner, by the alchemists, some superior minds began to

see that there was a law in operation producing the strange results, at which men marvelled, and were enabled to reproduce, by an effort of reasoning, the results desired. Metallurgy is not chemistry, though metallurgical processes have been greatly aided by the applications of chemistry. Mr. Rodwell,-or we do not read him aright,-desires to show that in the use of fire, to separate a metal from its ore, there were the first outshadowings of chemical science. We do not think so. It is not to be supposed that because the ancients made bronze,—coloured glass with copper,—and dyed their fabrics, that they were chemists. Even the occult philosophers of Arabia (from whom we derive the name of our science, of alcohol, of alkali) were very far removed from being chemists. Their mysterious processes were the means of bringing them acquainted with numerous strange and interesting phenomena; but the science of chemistry was not yet conceived within any human brain. Thus far we differ from Mr. Rodwell, but we have read his little book with pleasure. Many matters are very pleasingly brought before his readers. For example, he has sketched in an interesting manner the growth of metallurgy. A very considerable amount of information is collected within the pages of this little book, and it is generally,-but not always,-correct. He tells us, for example, that "copper was in use before iron," and that "Homer wrote in the age of copper,"—whereas Hesiod tells us, of a lump of iron being offered as a prize to the victor in some athletic sports; and in the earliest of the Oriental monarchies, we have evidences of the use of iron contemporaneously, at all events, with that of copper. We freely admit that obscurity surrounds the history of all ancient metallurgies, but the evidence we have appears to give quite as high an antiquity to iron as to copper; and, looking at the conditions under which these metals occur in nature, it appears probable that man gained some knowledge of the former metal before he had discovered the latter one. With evidences of a large amount of curious reading, we find in this book numerous examples of a hasty appropriation of statements, which a slight examination would have convinced the author were not to be relied on. His sketch of the progress of alchemy is worthy of a perusal; and, although he fails to show the gradual process by which chemistry arose a living light, out of the dying ashes of the alchemical fires, he does show that out of the zealous chase after false lights the truth was eventually secured.

Although we see good reasons for objecting to the title of the book, we are quite disposed to recommend its matter to the attentive student of modern science. It will teach him that man, in his endeavours to possess the earth and subdue it, has advanced from the rudest processes, and by the wildest leaps, as often backward as forward, to a more refined system of search, by which he is steadily advancing the discovery of truth and ameliorating the condition of the race.

PROF. MAEDLER.

JOHANN HEINRICH VON MÄDLER was born at Berlin on May 29, 1794. For many years he was engaged in tuition in that city, but devoted much time, in conjunction with W. Beer, a banker of the same town, to astronomical studies and observations A series of physical observations

of the planet Mars, the fruit of their united was published in 1830; and in 1837 appeared that great classic in astronomy, Beer and Madler's 'Der Mond,' giving a complete and detailed description of the lunar surface, the result of the observations of many years, and accompanied by a map, "Mappa Selenographica," three feet in diameter, which still continues the best hitherto published, though it is likely that it will shortly lose that pre-eminence owing to the publication of the map produced by the long and publication of the map produced by the long and elaborate observations of Dr. Julius Schmidt of Athens. During the latter part of Mādlers residence in Berlin, he was connected with the Royal Observatory there, under the late Prof. Encke; and in the year 1840 he was appointed to succeed the celebrated W. Struve as Professor of Astronomy at the University of Dorpat, and Director of the Observatory there, which his predecessor had made so famous. His labours in the latter were chiefly in continuity with Strave's researches in the interesting subject of the motions of double stars. We must not forget to mention his well-known theory, the "central sun hypothesis," by which he endeavoured to show, from the proper motions of a large number of fixed stars, and the mutual relations of these, that our Sun and solar system are moving round a point in or near the star in the Pleiades known as Alcyone or n Tauri which he regarded as the common centre of gravity of the whole system of fixed stars, extending to the Milky Way. Without discussing this theory here, we may remark that Prof. Mädler has sup-ported it by many very elaborate calculations, which he challenged those who doubted it to draw any other conclusion from. But it would manifestly be premature, on à priori grounds, to attribute great weight to any such theory; or to Prof. Madler's attempt to approximate to our Sun's time of revolution round the supposed central Sun, which he made about eighteen millions of years.

Prof. Mädler, who, during the latter part of his tenure of office at Dorpat, had enjoyed the able assistance of Dr. Clausen, died at Hanover, after several months' illness, on the 14th inst., having nearly reached his eightieth year. His early associate at Berlin, Herr W. Beer, had died as far back as 1849. It is only right, in conclusion, to mention Prof. Mädler's last work, 'Geschichte der Himmelskunde von der ältesten bis auf die neueste Zeit,' Braunschweig, 1873,—a most interesting history of the progress of descriptive astronomy, from the most ancient to the most recent times, which was published in two volumes last year at Brun-

wick.

THE GOVERNMENT SCIENTIFIC EXPEDITION.

II.

A case of yellow fever occurring on board the Challenger determined Captain Nares to qui Babin before the time he had intended, and leaving that port on the 25th September, 1873, he preceded to the southward as quickly as possible, without stopping to sound or dredge until the 30th September, when, being off the Abrolhos bank, soundings were made in 2,150 fathoms, and three days after in 2,350 fathoms, the trawl was let down. On heaving it in, the strain was greater than usual, and precautions were taken in bringing the precious load to the surface, but before the butwn for lifting it out of the water could be hooked, the swivel, used to keep the turns out of the repectant naturalists, the trawl and its doubtles valuable contents were lost.

Soundings were continued towards Tristad'Acunha, the depth averaging a little over 2,000 fathoms; and on the 15th the ship anchored of the settlement of that island. Four days were spent in sounding and dredging amongst the group, and the islands were surveyed. Captain Nares was informed by the people at the settlement, that nearly two years before, two German had landed on Inaccessible Island, about twenty miles to the south-west of Tristan d'Acunha; but whether they are alive or not was not known. The Challenger went to the island, and observing

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a hut on the east side of the island, a boat was a hat on the east side of the Island, a boat was sent in to communicate. The two Germans were found on the beach, but in a sad plight from want; indeed, the story of their adventures and battle for life during their stay would realize the pictures of Defoe in 'Robinson Crusoe.' They were delighted enough to find themselves once more among their fellow-creatures, and gladly availed themselves of the offer of Captain Nares to give them a passage to the Cape of Good Hope.

Between Tristan d'Acunha and the Cape of Good Hope.

Between Tristan d'Acunha and the Cape of Good Hope the weather prevented sounding as frequently as was wished, but deeper water was obtained on that side of the South Atlantic than was found on the west side. The Challenger arrived at the Cape of Good Hope on the 28th

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The configuration of the bed of the ocean may be regarded as one of the great facts ascertained in this the first portion of the voyage, and when considered in conjunction with soundings previously obtained, conclusions of great magnitude may be derived from them regarding what may be termed the grand features of the form of the earth beneath the waters, and although much more may be desired to complete the chain of argument, still we have made a great advance in our knowledge, and one all the more satisfactory because we know the care and accuracy with which the depths have

been measured.
Various are the opinions respecting the inequalities of the earth at the bottom of the ocean, some maintaining that it has all the inequalities of the earth above water, whilst others hold that it is but a gently undulating plain: the latter would appear most evident if the depths are connected by a simple curved line from one point to another; but to make that argument conclusive, the heights of the land above water at equal distances, as the soundings are apart, should be in the same way connected, and it would then be found that the great inequalities of the land would disappear. great inequalities of the land would disappear. On the other hand, when we consider the islands and rocks of the Atlantic, such as Bernuda, Azores, St. Paul Rocks, Tristan d'Acunha, Ascension, &c., as but the summit of mountains rising abruptly from the bed of the ocean, we are almost warranted mom the bed of the ocean, we are almost warranted in assuming that the form of the earth above water and below is similar in its inequalities; but that these inequalities below the surface are smoothed over, or levelled, by the constant deposition of organic and inorganic matter; and that, were the level of the ocean lowered, so that the banks, or rises, now below the waters should be above it, these particles of matter would be washed downward, leaving a portion of the earth's surface as unequal as it is now.

The North Atlantic bas now been well examined.

We have a line of soundings from the North of Scotland to the south point of Greenland, and from thence to Labrador. More soundings have been taken in the narrow waters north of this, but been taken in the narrow waters north of this, but they cannot be reckoned among the broad features of the Atlantic. The next line, nearly 500 miles south of the last, is the well-known line of the North Atlantic telegraph cable, which extends from the south extreme of Ireland to Newfound-land; a third is from Ushant to the south point of and; a third is from Ushant to the south point of the Newfoundland bank; a fourth, from the Azores to Bermuda,—the Azores being connected with the English Channel, and also with Madeira, by lines of soundings; a fifth, on a line from Cape Bojador to the north-east angle of the West India Bojador to the north-east angle of the West India Islands, or St. Thomas's; and a sixth, on a line from Cape Palmas to St. Paul Rocks, and then dipping into the South Atlantic towards Cape St. Roque, of South America; but in the South Atlantic we have only the one line already described from the Abrolhos to the Cape of Good Hope. There are, also, occasional soundings between these lines.

When the contours from these soundings are drawn, we find an area of irregular form, having a depth exceeding 2,500 fathoms, and extending from the great bay formed by the Bahama Islands and the coast of America to Newfoundland, of which the Florida Strait may be considered the

head, to within about 400 miles of the African coast. To the north of this vast belt, two horns, or culs de sac, of the same depth run, one to the east of the Azores as far as the latitude of the English Channel; the other between the Bank of Newfoundland and that known as the Milne Bank; while, with a depth of 2,000 fathoms, these Bank; while, with a depth of 2,000 fathoms, these culs de sac extend considerably to the northward, the western one as far to the entrance of Davis Strait; so that it would appear that there is a considerable rise in the formation of the earth proper, extending from Greenland round the Azores. Another line of soundings, from about the Strait of Belleisle to the south point of the Rockall Bank, would tend to the fuller elucidation of this interesting feature.

To the south of the deep area a bank appears, your which the Challenger passed and which is

over which the Challenger passed, and which is called the "Dolphin Rise"; on this the depth is a little under 2,000 fathoms; and, as it extends benttle under 2,000 fathoms; and, as it extends between 600 and 700 miles, we cannot suppose we have yet got its nucleus or shallowest water. On the west side of this bank, the 2,500 fathoms depth extends south only to the latitude of the north coast of South America, whilst on the east side it extends, by a narrow gullet, in a south-east direction into the South Atlantic, between St. Paul Rocks and the African coast, from which point it Rocks and the African coast, from which point it would be difficult to define the limits; but, from a comparison of isolated soundings with those of the Challenger, we may infer that the deeper water still extends to the south-eastward, past Ascension and St. Helena; whilst the 2,000 fathoms area extends over the whole width of the ocean, towards the South Pole, with but little interruption.

The vast importance of these contours is apparent when we consider the ocean circulation as denoted

by the temperatures observed at these great depths.

It may be remarked in relation to the nature of It may be remarked in relation to the nature of the bottom, that in the two direct lines of soundings which cross the great deep of the North Atlantic, the same kind of red clay exists at the greatest depths, i.e., when it exceeds about 2,700 fathoms, and in the southern line it is noticeable that as the ship passed over the "Dolphin Rise," the line of demarkation between the red clay and the usual globegerina coze was very marked, the red clay bottoms being found on either side of the rise. clay bottoms being found on either side of the rise.

This red clay was not obtained when crossing near
the Equator; but was again found as red mud,
but in rather shallower water, both on the South
American and African side of the southern section

Observations were made on the surface current Observations were made on the surface current whenever practicable, but as they do not affect the now well-known currents of the ocean, no new light can be thrown on them; but they will, doubtless, be of much value in establishing or correcting the current maps that exist.

Observations were also made on several occasions

Observations were also made on several occasions on the sub-currents, but a large series must be recorded before any satisfactory results can be deduced on this much-vexed question.

As might be supposed, animal life decreases both in variety of species and number with depth of the water, and the forms become more simple; but until the collection can be considered as a whole, it will be impossible to define the bathymetrical limits and habitats of the various species.

THE EXODUS OF THE ISRAELITES.

THE EXODUS OF THE ISRAELITES.

Hastings, March 18, 1874.

On my return to England from the visit I have just made to the "Mountain of Light," situate north-east of Akaba, which I deem to be the true Mount Sinai, I wish to say a few words respecting the flight of the Children of Israel from Rameses to the Red Sea, as recorded in Exodus xii. 37, xiii. 20, xiv. 1, which is generally imagined to have occupied them only three days, because "the journeys of the Israelites," enumerated in the thirty-third chapter of Numbers, are assumed to be each of a single day only.

The fact is, however, that the Scripture says nothing whatever about days' journey, but simply records the names of the principal places through or by which the Israelites passed. To conclude

that the distance from Rameses to the Red Sea is only three days' journey, because the intermediate stations of Succoth and Etham alone are named, is much the same as if it were argued that the journey I have just gone from Alexandria to Venice, from Venice to Paris, and from Paris to England, has been of only three days' duration, because no mention is made of any of its intermediate stages.

mediate stages.

That the journey of the Israelites from Rameses to the Red Sea was in reality of six days' duration, and not of three days only, is established by the following simple argument. The days during which the people are unleavened bread were seven, commencing on the fifteenth and ending on the twenty-first day of the month; the first day of twenty-first day of the month; the first day of the seven being a day of holy convocation or feast, and the seventh day being in like manner a day of holy convocation or feast (see Exod. xiii. 16; Levit. xxxiii. 7, 8). These days of unleavened bread were necessarily coincident with those of their flight, which commenced at midnight of (preceding) the 15th day of the month, and continued till the night of (preceding) the 21st day of the month, when they passed through the Red Sea. They are unleavened bread on the night of the feast of the Passover, because, as we are expressly told (Exod. xii. 34), their bread was not yet leavened, and they still continued to eat unleavened bread on the seventh day, although a feast, because during the preceding night their passage through the Red Sea took place, and there was neither time nor opportunity for them to leaven their bread.

This construction of the Scripture narrative is so simple and natural that it scarcely stands in need of corroborative evidence. Nevertheless, that evidence is afforded by the fact that to the present day the Jews regard the twenty-first day of the month as the anniversary of the passage of their ancestors through the Red Sea, and accordingly on ancestors through the Red Sea, and accordingly on that day they recite in their synagogues the fifteenth chapter of Exodus, containing the magnificent song of triumph and thanksgiving sung by Moses and the Children of Israel. Besides which, it has to be remarked that, had the passage through the Red Sea taken place after only three days' journey, the Israelites would have been guilty of the inconsistency and even the absurdity of continuing to at "the bread of affliction," as it is emphatically called in Deuteronomy xvi. 3, three days after their affliction had come to an end, and there was alonger any necessity for them to refrain from no longer any necessity for them to refrain from leavening their bread as they had been in the

leavening their bread as they had been in the habit of doing.

It is true that the Jews no longer regard their unleavened bread as the bread of affliction, but rather as the bread of rejoicing, and instead of keeping only the first and seventh days of unleavened bread as feasts or days of holy convocation, as is ordained in the Pentateuch, they keep the whole seven days as if they were feasts. This, however is a variation of long standing, for its property is a variation of long standing. however, is a variation of long standing; for in 2 Chron. xxx. 21, xxxiii. 17; Ezra iv. 22, we read that "they kept the feast of unleavened bread seven days." So easy, and indeed so natural, has it been with them, as with all other people, to change their holy days into helidays.

change their holy days into holidays.

The feast of the Passover is now near at hand. If any of your readers desire to satisfy themselves as to the custom of the Jews in this respect, they have only to visit one of their synagogues on the twenty-first day of the month—the 8th of April, if I calculate rightly—when they will hear the fifteenth chapter of Exodus read, because that day is the anniversary of the passage of the Children of Israel through the Red Sea, and the destruction

therein of Pharaoh and his host.

Sufficient has been said, I trust, to show that the flight of the Israelites from Rameses to the the flight of the Israelites from Rameses to the Red Sea occupied them six days, and not three days only as is generally imagined. And as that flight was a precipitous one, and taken in great part during the night by the light of the moon, between the full and the third quarter, it may reasonably be inferred that the distance travelled by the fugitives between Rameses and the Red by the fugitives between Rameses and the Red Sea was much more than an ordinary six days'

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journey. Hence it is manifest how futile all attempts to trace the route of the Israelites must be, that are based on the assumption that that distance was of three days' journey only.

CHARLES BEKE.

SOCIETIES.

ROYAL.—March 19.—The President in the chair.—The Right Hon. Viscount Cardwell was admitted into the Society.—The following papers were read: 'Preliminary Notice of Experiments concerning the Chemical Constitution of Saline Solutions,' by Mr. W. N. Hartley,—'Note on the Intra-cellular Development of Blood Corpuscles in Mammalia,' by Mr. E. A. Schäfer,—'On Attractions of Magnets and Electric Conductors,' by Mr. G. Gore,—and 'Spectroscopic Observations of the Sun,' by Messrs. J. N. Lockyer and G. M. Seaborke.

GEOGRAPHICAL.—March 23.—The Right Hon. Sir Bartle Frere, President, in the chair.—The following Fellows were elected: Capts. Henderson and M. Protherie, Rev. E. Sanderson, Messrs. C. Baber, R. Bourne, W. W. Buller, J. W. Hadow, A. Park, W. Payne, Hon. A. L. Pelham, E. Walburn, F. G. Waugh, and E. V. Westmacott.—Two letters were read from Mr. T. D. Forsyth (addressed to Sir R. Montgomery): one from Yarkund, dated the 24th of November, and the other from Kashgar, the 11th of December last. They described the welcome and reception given to the British mission by the ruler of Eastern Turkestan, who had now assumed the title of Ameer Yakoob Khan.—A paper was read, by Mr. R. G. Watson (late charge paper was read, by Mr. R. G. Watson (late charge d'affaires in Japan), entitled, 'Notes of a Journey in the Island of Yezo in 1873, and on the Progress of Geography in Japan.' The author visited Yezo, the northernmost of the three main islands of Japan, last summer, and witnessed the results of the recent efforts of the Japanese Government to colonize the island. At present Yezo is placed on a different footing from that of all the other portions of the Mikado's dominions, being considered rather as a colonial possession, and governed by a special office, called the Yezo Colonization Department. Although richly wooded and picturesque, abounding in coal and other minerals, with salmon and other fisheries of surprising abundance, it is but very thinly populated, and would have continued in its neglected condition had not the Japanese Government been stimulated to action by the encroachments of the Russians in Saghalien, immediately to the north of it. The population does not exceed 124,000, of which number 16,000 belong to the singular aboriginal hairy race, called Ainos. The island is of about the same size as Ireland. Although lying ten degrees more southerly than Ireland, its climate is much colder; and Mr. Watson was glad to sit over a fire even at noon in the dog-days, and to sleep under a thick quilt at night; still the mangolia grows in its forests, and rice and maize are cultivated. He advocated the removal of the capital from Hakodate to Endermo, the latter place being more central, and having a magnificent With regard to the progress of our knowledge of the interior of Japan generally, the author said that Europeans are still forbidden to travel beyond the limit of thirty miles from the treaty ports; nevertheless, on one errand or other, Englishmen and Americans had traversed the largest island in various directions. In conclusion, he described the surprising change that had come over the attitude of the Japanese regarding foreigners. A few years ago, every traveller, even in the Yedo streets, carried, as it were, his life in his hands, and officials were forbidden to stir out without an armed escort: at present any foreigner can traverse, alone and unarmed, town or country without the slightest risk.—Mr. Motono Morimichi, Japanese chargé d'affaires in London, and Mr. Luzuki Kinso, Secretary of Legation, were present at the meeting, and expressed, through the President, their surprise and gratification at the interest shown by the audience in Japan.-Mr. A. B.

Mitford and Sir R. Alcock also addressed the meeting.

Numismatic.—March 19.—W. S. W. Vaux, Esq., President, in the chair.—Messrs. C. Butler, J. Cockburn, R. Hall, and G. H. Vize were elected Members.—Mr. Evans exhibited a brass coin of Cunobeline, the type of which was a boar devouring a serpent. This unique coin lately formed part of Wigan collection. On its inscription, TASC. FIL, is founded the generally accepted interpretation of the legend TASC. F. on other coins of Cunobeline as TASCIOVANI FILIUS.—Mr. Golding exhibited a rare silver coin of John, Duke of Burgundy and Count of Flanders.-Mr. F. R. Conder communicated a paper 'On the History of the Jewish Coinage,' in which he endeavoured to prove, from data furnished chiefly by the Talmud and Maimonides, one of its commentators, that the chronological arrangement at present adopted by numismatists is erroneous. The writer stated that, in his opinion, the well-known shekels and half-shekels, universally acknowledged to be the earliest of all the Jewish coins, were, on the contrary, the latest of the series, &c. A discussion followed, in the course of which the President pointed out the fallacy of some of the arguments advanced by Mr. Conder; while Mr. Evans adduced the fact that one of the so-called "Nasi" coins, attributed by Mr. Conder to a much earlier period, is re-struck over a Roman large brass coin, probably of the reign of Nero.-Mr. Evans, in illustration of the subject under discussion, exhibited shekels of Simon, the Maccabee, of the years 1, 2, and 3, coins of Eleazar and Simon Gioras, of the time of the first revolt of the Jews under Nero; and of Simon Barcochab, of the period of the second revolt under Hadrian.

LINNEAN.—March 19.—Dr. G. J. Allman in the chair.—Messrs. A. Walker and E. C. Reed were elected Fellows.—The following papers were read: 'Observations on Bees and Wasps,' by Sir J. Lubbock, Bart.,—and 'On Oniscigaster Wakefieldi, a singular Insect from New Zealand, belonging to the family Ephemeridæ, with Notes on its Aquatic Conditions,' by Mr. R. M'Lachlan.

ZOOLOGICAL - March 17 .- Prof. Newton, V.P., in the chair.-The Secretary called the attention of the Meeting to the young male Javan Rhinoceros Rhinoceros sondaicus) from Batavia, believed to be the first example of this Rhinoceros brought alive to Europe. Letters and communications were read: from the Rev. S. J. Whitmee, resident at Samoa, stating that he had forwarded a Didunculus and two Curlews for the Society's collection, and giving particulars concerning the habits of this bird, and another peculiar Samoan species— Pareudiastes Pacificus; and from Dr. G. Bennett respecting the birds in question; by Dr. Günther, the recent introduction into this country, by Lord Arthur Russell, of the Ide (Leuciscus melanotus, var. orfus); by Prof. Huxley, on the structure of the skull and of the heart of Menobranchus lateralis, describing the structure of the bony skull in the osteo-cranium and giving a full account of the primordial skull or chondrocranium which has not hitherto been noticed. The chondro-cranium was compared with that of Proteus, and that of larval Frogs and Tritons, and its essentially embryonic character was indicated. The chondro-cranium was further shown to be formed by the coalescence of three distinct classes of elements, which were termed parachordal, pleural, and paraneural. The heart was described, and the septum of the auricles was shown to be an open net-work allowing of free communication between the right and left auricular chambers. The structure of the truncus arteriosus was compared with that observed in other Amphibians,—and by Mr. R. B. Sharpe on two new species of birds recently procured by Mr. H. T. Ansell, of Gaboon: these were proposed to be called Centropus Anselli and Dryoscopus coronatus.

ENTOMOLOGICAL. - March 16. - Sir Sidney Smith

Saunders, C.M.G., President, in the chair.—Mr. Champion exhibited specimens of Euryporus picipes, taken near Chatham.—Mr. Edward Saunders exhibited a box of Buprestides, collected by Prof. Semper in the Philippine Islands, and read some Notes and Descriptions of the New Species.—A paper was communicated by Prof. Westwood, 'On several Additional Species of Lucanidae in the Collection of Major F. J. Sidney Parry.'

CHEMICAL. - March 19. - Prof. Odling, President, in the chair.—Prof. Dewar delivered his lecture 'On Dissociation.' The lecturer premised that, as he had but little that was new to tell, he must content himself with condensing and epitomizing the results of others. After briefly referring to the theories of Priestley and Hutton, he described the famous experiments of Sir J. Hall, who obtained a substance identical with marble by fusing carbonate of lime under pressure. He next noticed Grove's discovery, that water was decom-posed at a lower temperature than that produced by the union of oxygen and hydrogen, and then explained the masterly researches of Deville on the effect of heat in causing the dissociation of carbonic anhydride, carbonic oxide, water, &c. After this the lecturer showed that in dissociation the tension of the vapour evolved is constant for a given tem-perature and independent of the mass, illustrating it by Debray's experiments on the decomposition of carbonate of lime at a regulated heat, and the evolution of water from certain hydrated salts. The lecture, which was illustrated with diagrams of various curves of tension, concluded with some remarks on the dissociation of the compound of hydrogen and palladium, and with a description of an apparatus devised by the speaker for ascer-taining the temperatures produced by the explosion of a mixture of oxygen and hydrogen under various

METEOROLOGICAL.—March 18.—Dr. R. J. Mann, President, in the chair.—Messrs. W. Batten, B. F. Cobb, R. H. Curtis, J. P. Harrison, B. D. Knox, and W. Scott, were elected Fellows.—The following papers were read: 'An Attempt to Establish a Relation between the Velocity of the Wind and its Force (Beaufort Scale), with some Remarks on Anemometrical Observations in General,' by Mr. R. H. Scott. The author stated that he considered that the existing scales of wind force were unsatisfactory. The highest pressure, corresponding to Force 6 of the Land Scale, was 36 lb. per square foot, whereas pressures of above 40 lb. had frequently been registered. He further brought forward proofs of the irregularity in the distribution of such high pressure. He then spoke of the Beaufort Scale, and pointed out some of its defects; but stated that, speaking generally, it might be considered to be a rough classification of the wind force, exact enough for practical purposes, and proceeding by nearly equal degrees. He had recently made experiments at Holyhead and at Yarmouth to test the velocity recorded by the anemometer at each station at the hours when the several figures of the Beaufort Scale were reported. The result was a scale which agreed closely with that given by Schott as a deduction from theory in his discussion of the observations made by Leopold M'Clintock in the Fox, and published by the Smithsonian Institution. Inasmuch as the accordance of practice with theory was very great, he proposed this scale for general adoption :

| Force | Miles per hour. | Force | Force | Miles per hour. | Force |

The paper then went on to point out, from experience gained at Holyhead, Yarmouth, and Falmouth, the serious discrepancies which had been proved to exist in the records of velocity for the various points of the compass, especially at Yarmouth, and which showed that local situations, not only the contour of the country, but even the very shape and height of the obser-

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vatory, and the adjacent buildings, exercised a most serious influence on the correctness of the data afforded by the instruments. It therefore seemed dangerous to reason as to the mean motion of the air over the British Isles from the anemometrical records of one or two stations, as had been done by Dove.—'On the Sensitiveness of Thermometers,' by Mr. G. J. Symons, in which he gave the results of a series of comparisons of the speed with which thermometers with bulbs of various sizes took up the true temperature to which they were exposed. Three series of thermometers were used; a set with spherical bulbs filled with mercury, and varying in diameter from a quarter mercury, and varying in diameter from a quarter to three-quarters of an inch—the result was that the small bulb took up the true temperature in about three minutes, while the large bulb took three times as long; a second set were similar in form, but filled with spirit—they were more sluggish, but the small spirit ones were more prompt than large mercurial ones; lastly, the new retterns of spirit minimum thermometers interpatterns of spirit minimum thermometers, introduced by Mr. Casella and Mr. Hicks, were tested and found as sensitive as ordinary mercurial thermometers.—'On the Weather of Thirteen Autumns,' by Mr. R. Strachan.

Physical.—March 21.—Dr. J. H. Gladstone in PHYSICAL.—March 21.—Dr. J. H. Gladstone in the chair.—The Chairman gave a brief description of the objects and organization of the Society, and announced that ninety-nine gentlemen had already expressed their desire to join the Society as original members.—Mr. J. A. Fleming read a paper 'On the New Contact Theory of the Galvanic Cell.' After discretize the second statement of the Contact Theory of the Galvanic Cell.' discussing the most recent views regarding the discussing the most recent views regarding the contact and chemical theories, Mr. Fleming exhibited the action of his new battery, in which metallic contact of dissimilar metals is entirely avoided. The battery consisted of thirty test-tubes of dilute nitric acid alternating with the same number of tubes of sodium penta-sulphide, all well insulated. Rent string of alternate lead and copper insulated. Bent strips of alternate lead and copper connected the neighbouring tubes. By this device the terminal poles are of the same metal. On connecting with a coarse galvanometer, the needle was violently and permanently deflected. Tested by the quadrant electrometer, the potential was shown to increase regularly with the number of cells. The sixty cells on first immersion showed an electro-motive force exceeding that of fifteen Daniell's cells. The principle upon which the action depends is, that in the acid, lead is positive to copper; in the sulphide it is negative. Mr. Fleming further showed how by using the single fluid nitric acid and the single metal iron, a similar battery could be constructed, provided one-half of each iron strip were rendered passive. In this form also no metallic contacts occurred.—Prof. F. Guthrie showed metalic contacts occurred.—Prof. F. Guthrie showed experiments illustrating the distribution of a current of electricity in passing from one pole to another across a conducting medium. This was shown in the case of solids by the stratification of iron filings in sheets of tin-foil and lead. A current of electricity was passed between two points in a horizontal line lying on the surface of a sheet of metal placed vertically in the magnetic meridian, and the distribution explored by means of a freely suspended magnet-needle. As the needle was gradually lowered, its direction of deflection was beserved to change, at a certain point, from east to west. This point was ascertained by experiment to be at a distance below the horizontal line in which the current entered and left the plate equal to one-third of the interval between the poles. A similar effect was shown in a liquid conductor.— Prof. G. C. Foster, Dr. Wright, and Dr. Gladstone took part in the discussion of the communications.

MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

MERTINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

Iondon Institution, 4.—'Elementary Botany,' III., Prof. Bentley,
Chemical, 8.—Anniversary.
Social Science Association, 8.—'Abolition of Slaughter-houses and Legislation on Noxious Trad. s.' Dr. Hardwicke.
United Service Institution, 8).—'Trails of H. M. S. Devastation,' Mr. N. Barnaby.

Time. Civil Engineers, 8.—'Fixed Signals of Railways,' Mr. R. C. Rapier; 'Simplicity as the Essential of Safety end Efficiency in the Working of Railways,' Capt. H. W. Tyler.

Microscopical, 8.—'Morphology of the Skull in Picide,' Mr. W. K. Parker.

Parker.

Thurs. Chemical, S.—'Sulphocyanide of Ammonium and Sulphocyanocen, Dr. Phipson; 'Reaction of Gallie Acid, Mr. H. R. Procter; 'Cobalt Bromides and Iodides,' Mr. W. N. Harsley; 'Distillation of Sodium Ricinociate,' Mr. H. Neisson; 'Solubility of Plumbic Chloride in Giyoerine,' Mr. H. Piesse; 'Ozone as a Concomitant of the Oxidation of the Bensyl Chloride on Camphor, Part II. Keeserches on the Preparation of Organo-Metallie Bodies of the C_R H_{2R}, Series of Hydrocarbons,' and 'Action of Bensyl Chloride on Alcohols,'

Science Gossip.

WE understand that the Royal Society's Conversazione is fixed for Wednesday, April 22ad.

THE Royal Commission on Scientific Instruction and the Advancement of Science have made the fourth and concluding Report. In their conclusion and summary of recommendations, they speak of the Natural History Collections of the British Museum, in the governing authority and official administration of which they advise a change; the Museum of the College of Surgeons, the National Botanical Collections and Gardens, the Scientific Collections of the South Kensington Museum, and Provincial Museums, for which they recommend the organization of typical museums. THE Royal Commission on Scientific Instruction recommend the organization of typical museums, by qualified naturalists, and public lectures. The Commission propose that these should be of two kinds—lectures of an elementary character, on the general principles and most important facts of science, and lectures, specially intended for the working classes, on the application of science to the arts and industries of the country.

EUROPE contributes the second planetary discovery of this year. No. 136 of the constantly increasing group of minor planets was detected by Herr Palisa, of the new Observatory at Pola, near Trieste, on the 18th inst.

THE Meteorological Committee have communicated to the Board of Trade that they have decided to recommend the re-introduction of a modified code of Admiral FitzRoy's storm signals, by means of cones and drum. A greater compliment to the practical sagacity of the late Admiral could not well be paid, and the only thing to be regretted is that they were ever discontinued.

A CORRESPONDENT writes : - "Prof. Sir W. Thomson has been lecturing on the Science of Navigation before the learned Societies of Edin-burgh and Glasgow. Sir William is dissatisfied with the Admiralty compass, which, he says, is too large to register correctly, and which hunts in a gale. He has prepared two new compasses, which have had several trials with perfect success, and which, by a new method of fixture, he hopes to make free of the tremor which, especially on board steamers, prevents correct registration. Referring to Summer's Method of Navigation, Sir William says that 'it would be the greatest blessing to young and old navigators if every other system were done away with.'" With reference to the mariner's compass, we cannot but remember that the construction of what is termed the Admirally Compass was not arrived at until an exhaustive inquiry had been made, and magnetic experiments with different forms and dimensions of needles had been gone through; and as the names of Sir S. Airy, Christie, Sir E. Sabine, Johnstone, and others, are connected with it, we must be pardoned if we do not indulge in the same hopes as the learned Professor regarding his hopes as the learned Professor regarding his ultimate success; and as to navigating a ship, without detriment to Sumner's Method, which undoubtedly is good, we believe it would be as difficult to convince the young as it would the old of the blessing conferred on them by depriving them of every other system. For the compass, a lengthened trial, in one of H.M. iron-clad ships, by the side of the Admiralty compass, would be the best test of superiority, and the seaman navigator himself will be the better judge of the best method for navigating his ship by. for navigating his ship by.

THE Annales des Sciences Géologiques, for February the 16th, contains a most valuable and interesting contribution to science by M. E. Oustalet. This being the second part of his 'Recherches sur les Insectes Fossiles des Terrains Tertiaires de la France,' embracing the "Insectes

Fossiles d'Aix en Provence." The examination is most complete, the description covers 112 pages, and there are two well-executed plates of the fossil insects.

FINE ARTS

The TENTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION of CABINET PICTURES, by Artists of the British and Foreign Schools, is NOW OPEN, at T. M'lean's New Gallery, 7, Haymarket, next the Theatre.—Admission, 1s., including Catalogue.

'The SHADOW of DEATH.' Painted by Mr. HOLMAN HUNT.

NOW on VIEW. From 10 till 8.—A spacious Platform has been
erected, or that Visitors now have an unimpeded View of the Picture.

398, Old Bond Street.—Admission, 18.

DUDLEY GALLERY, Egyptian Hall, Piccadilly,—GENERAL EXHIBITION OF WATER-O-LOUR DRAWINGS.—ThE TENTH— ANNUAL EXHIBITION is OPEN DAILY, from Ja.M. to 6-M.—Admission, 1s; Catalogue, ed. GEORGE L. HALL, Hon. Sec.

DORÉ'S GREAT PICTURE of 'CHRIST LEAVING the PRE-TORIUM,' with 'Night of the Crucifixion,' 'Christian Martyrs,' 'Prancesco de Rimini,' Noophyte,' 'Andromeda,' &c., at the DORE GALLERY, 25, New Bond Street. Ten to Six.—Admission, 1s.

ROUND the WORLD with W. SIMPSON, being Pictures from the Four Quarters of the Globe by "A Special Artist"—Burlington Gallery, 191, Piccadilly. Open from Ten to Six.—Admission, including Catalogue, 12.

JOHN TALBOT, EARL OF SHREWSBURY.

JOHN TALBOT, EARL OF SHEEWSBURY.

Metton College, Oxford, March 24, 1874.

I HAVE read with much interest the account of the discovery of the body of the great Sir John Talbot, Earl of Shrewsbury, which was read at the last meeting of the Society of Antiquaries, as described in your report this week. I see it is there stated that tradition only speaks of him as a paring been buried at. Whiteharsh in Shreenhise. having been buried at Whitchurch, in Shropshire,

but I hope you will permit me to show that this tradition is based on accurate facts.

In the Ashmolean MSS. 854, in the Bodleian Library, at p. 219, are Ashmole's own notes on Whitchurch Church, taken 31st of August, 1663. He writes :- "In an arch cut into the South Wall He writes:—"In an arch cut into the South Wall of the Chancell, lyes the portraiture (cut in stone) of John Talbot, first Earle of Shrewesbury, in Armour, over weh is his Mantle of the Order of the Garter, verged round with 4 welts, on the left shoulder of weh appears St. George's Cross within a garter, and about his left Legg the Garter of the Order, the Motto beginning at the Labell. The coronet upon his head is raised in this manner (a drawing of an earl's correction gives the Garter).

(a drawing of an earl's coronet is given).
"There is no epitaph now remaining, but in a MS., there shewed me wherein (15 July, 1598,) there were entered some extracts out of the old

there were entered some extracts out of the old Church Registrar, this Epitaph is to be seen:—
"'Here lyeth the right noble knight, John Talbot, Earle of Shrewsbury, Earl of Washford, Waterford and Valence, Lord Talbot of Goodrich and Urchinfield, Lord Strange of Blackmere, Lord Verdon of Alton, Lord Crumwell of Wingfield, Lord Levetoft of Worsoppe, Lord Furnivall of Sheiffield, and Lord Fauconbridge, Knight of the most Noble Order of St. George, Saint Michaell and the Goulden Fleece, Great Marshall to King Henry the Sixt of his Realme of Fraunce, who dyed at the battaile of Castilion, nere Bourdeaux. An° 1453.' Anº 1453.'

"But it is certaine the following Inscripcon was cut in a brass plate, and set in the upper parte of the Arch though now lost:—

parte or the Arch though now lost:—

"'Orate pro animâ prenobilis dñi Johis Talbot quondam Comitis Salopiæ, dñi Talbot, dñi de Furnivall, dñi Verdon, dñi Strange de Blackmere et Marescali Franciæ, qui obiit in bello apud Burdowe (sic) xvijo die July Ano Dni Milessimo cocomo liijito.

"Uron the North side of the Changli in

"Upon the North side of the Chancell in an Arch like the former is the portraiture of Sir John Talbot, Priest (cut in Free-stone likewise), in his whole habitt with Furre: He was Rector both

his whole habitt with Furre: He was Rector both of Whitchurch and Bangor, and gave the first Money towards the advancement of the Free Schoole at Whitchurch.

"In the East Window of the Chancell are two shields of arms (figured in the MSS.), [quarterly, 1 and 4 a lion rampant within a border engrailed, 2 and 3. The lives research impulses Fernes and and 3. Two lions passant, impaling France and England quarterly within a border. The same coat impaling 1 and 4. On five shields, 5 roundels, 2 and 3. Five crescents (Portugal). No tinctures

"But when the Extract was made out of the before menconed Register, it thereby appears there was then standing in the said Chancell

window these coats following:—
"Gilbert Talbot dñs. de Blackmere and Joane

"Gilbert Talbot dñs. de Blackmere and Beatrice his wife, the king of Portugall's daughter.

"John Talbot dns. de Furnivall and Maude his

"John Arundell and Elizabeth his wife of the

Talbotts.
"This coat and quarteringe" (figured in the MSS.) "were carved upon wood within a garter and stood in the Church Porch, where Sir Gilbert Talbot, sometyme Knight of the Garter (ut aiunt), lyes buried under a faire Marble, whereon had been fixed a large cross of brass, but now taken away." [The coat is quarterly of six, (1) a lion rampant with a border engrailed, (2) a lion rampant within a border (7), (3) on a cross saltire a martlet for difference, (4) a bend between 6 martlets, (5) fretty, (6) 2 lions passant. No tinctures given.] "Where note that the borders in the given.] "Where note that the borders in the coates of Talbot and Belesme are torne away, being perhaps but slightly glued on.
"In the North wall of the said Porch on the

right hand of the entrance hath been fixed an inscripcon in brass referring to the said Sir Gilbert Talbot, but it is long since taken thence."

Such is the description that Ashmole gives, and which, I believe, has never appeared in print, being, as far as I can learn, entirely overlooked by all Shropshire historians as well as all biographers. It is curious to note how the first inscription (of date anterior to 1598) agrees with Shakspeare, who writes :-

SIR WILLIAM LUCY.
But where's the great Alcides of the field,
Valiant Lord Talbot, Earl of Shrewsbury, Created, for his rare success in arms, Great Earl of Washford, Waterford, and Valence: Great Earl of Washford, Waterford, and Valence;
Lord Tabbet of Goodrig and Urchinfield,
Lord Strange of Blackmers, Lord Verdun of Alton,
Lord Cromwell of Wingfield, Lord Furnival of Sheffield,
The Commell of Wingfield, Lord Furnival of Sheffield,
Right of the noble order of Salombridge;
Right of the noble order of Salombridge;
Worthy Saint Michael and the Golden Fleece;
Great Marnhal to Henry the Sixth
Of all his wars within the realm of France?
Here is a silly stately style indeed:
The Turk, that two and fifty kingdoms hath
Writes not so tedious a style as this.
First Part of King Henry the Sixth, Act iv. sc. 7.
The following interesting extent from a private

The following interesting extract from a private letter which I have recently received may well

wind up this long account :-

"When the bones were found, the skull was stuffed with something which gave rise to much speculation. The rector had been ruminating on it for some time, when an idea struck him, which he refused even to tell his wife till he had made another inspection, which he at once did. He began to extract the contents through the cut,first a bit of thread, then a fragment of wood, again a bit of a newspaper, &c. &c., until at last out came three young mice, and this was the skull of John Talbot, the great Earl of Shrewsbury! If Shakspeare, when he wrote Henry the Sixth, could have anticipated this!"

If Talbot's skull may serve to hold a mouse's nest, Alexander's dust may stop a bunghole!

J. P. EARWAKER, F.S.A.

SALES.

On Friday, the 20th instant, Messrs. Christie, Manson & Woods sold the following pictures: Wilson, View near Holkham, 791.; The Temple of Venus and Tivoli, from the Campagna, 53l.; View on the Thames, Morning, 1765, 98l. — Gainsborough, A Landscape, study from nature, 102l.; View in Suffolk, with Peasants on a Road, Evening, 106l.—Morland, The Ballad-Singer, engraved,

The same auctioneers sold, on Saturday last, the under-named drawings: M. E. Lundgren, A Roman Woman, 65*l.*; A. Turkish Woman, 87*l.*; Norwegian Peasant, 74*l.* — Mr. E. G. Warren, Beech Wood, 52*l.*—Mr. J. W. Whittaker, Near the Pass of Nant Francon, 55*l.*; The Last Gleams

of Sunset on the Glydders, 157l.—Mr. E. Duncan, The Bass Rock, 73l.; The Pilot Boat, 107l.; Lindisfarne Abbey, 178l.; Vessels off the Light Rock, 64l.—Mr. G. A. Fripp, On the Cornish Coast, 50l.—Mr. E. Nicol, Paddy Cox Writing, 180l.—Mr. A. B. Houghton, Useless Mouths, 157l.—Mr. E. Werner, A. Corn. Field, 50l.—Mr. A. G. Gow. The Corn-Field, 801 .- Mr. A. C. Gow, The Warren, A Corn-Field, 801.—Mr. A. C. Gow, Inte Quarrel, 97l.—Mr. F. Goodall, A Cottage in Brittany, 89l.—M. T. Koller, Faust and Margaret, 136l.—D. Roberts, Heidelberg, 61l.; Waterloo Bridge, 56l.—Mr. J. Hardy, jun., The Keeper's Daughter, 74l.—Mr. L. Haghe, St. Gudule, 55l.; An Interior, with card-players, 57l.; The Music Party, 57l.—De Wint, A Large Landscape, with cattle, 59l.; Knaresborough, from the Harrogate Road, 1361 .-C. Fielding, At Sea, 52l.; A Coast Scene, 117l.-Mr. B. Foster, Haymaking, 79l.; Gathering Lilies, 124l.—C. Stanfield, The Pilot House, Dover, 55l. -Mr. F. Tayler, Going to Market, 841.; Dogs and Game, 84l.; Hunting in the Olden Time, 109l.; Autumn, 215l.—S. Prout, Zwinger Palace, 141l.; At Trêves, 142l.; A Street in Caen, 178l.—D. At Trêves, 142l.; A Street in Caen, 178l.—D. Cox, Banditti waiting for Travellers, 136l.; A Forest Scene, 315l.; Iz Wales, 283l.; In Wales, 69l.; Bettws Church, 174l.; Twilight, 84l.; The Banditti, 50l.—Mr. H. G. Hine, A Sussex-Down Scene, 174l.—W. Hunt, Devotion, 114l.; Meditation, 50l.; Nests and May Blossoms, 117l.—Mr. F. W. Topham, Preparing for the Bull-Fight, 34ll.; Irish Peasants, 51l.—J. Holland, Venice, 110l.—M. Gallait, Wayfarers, 97l.—Mr. W. Dobson, A Girl's Head, 74l.—Mr. T. S. Cooper, A Cow and Sheep. 57l. Sheep, 57l.

The following pictures were recently sold, for francs, in Paris: Brendel, Bergerie, 3,200,—Caraud, Intérieur de Harem, 1,295; Lecture chez Caraud, Interieur de Harem, 1,295; Lecture chez Marie-Antoinette, 2,950,—Decamps, Jésus et la Samaritaine, 3,500,—Diaz, Le Zéphir, 3,150,—Marilhat and Troyon, Le Ravin, 5,000,—Tassaert, La Tentation de St. Hilarion, 7,100; Mort de la Madeleine, 6,000; Rêve de la France, 4,500; Assomption, 3,300,—Troyon, Plaine de la Toucques,

Normandie, 46,000. Total, 105,975.

fine-Art Sondip.

THE private view of the Exhibition of the Society of British Artists takes place to-day (Saturday).

AT a meeting of the Members of the Society of Painters in Water Colours, held on the 23rd inst., Mr. Walter Duncan and Miss Clara Montalba were elected Associates of the body.

THE Annual Meeting of the Archæological Institute at Ripon, will commence on Tuesday July 21. President, the Marquis of Ripon, K.G. commence on Tuesday,

On the 23rd inst., a Special General Meeting of the Institute of Painters in Water Colours, called at the requisition of five members of the Society, the following gentlemen were elected Associates of the Institute, without being invited to submit drawings—Messrs. J. Woolf, W. Simpson, J. W. Oakes, J. Tenniel, J. A. Houston, J. Syer, and J. W. Hardy, jun. This meeting was, of course, independent of that appointed for yesterday (Friday).

AT Messrs. Pilgeram & Lefévre's Rooms, King Street, St. James's Square, may be seen two important drawings by Mdlle. R. Bonheur, respectively entitled 'A Stampede,' and 'The Straits of Ballachulish.

Mr. M'Lean's Gallery, Haymarket, will be opened to the public on Monday next, containing modern cabinet pictures.

THE private view of the Exhibition of the Liverpool Society of Water-Colour Painters takes place in Old Post-Office Place to-day (Saturday).

MISS METEYARD (author of the 'Life of Wedgwood,' and compiler of several works on his manuwood, and complet of several works of his manufactures,) has now in the press a 'Handbook of Wedgwood Manufactures.' It will contain an account of the various distinguishing characteristics incidental to the several sorts of ware, and will give a list, the result of research and experience, of the marks which were used at different periods by the

FOUR HUNDRED AND SEVENTY-NINE drawings by J. Wykeham Archer, of some artistic merit and great topographical value, have been purchased for the Print-Room, British Museum. These works the Print-Room, British Museum. These works were made for the late Mr. William Twopeny, and cost more than 1,000%. The Museum paid, in accordance with the wish of Mr. Twopeny, the sum of 600% for the whole. They are of extreme interest, as representing, in many cases, old build-ings in London of which no other drawings exist, Mr. Twopeny bequeathed to the Museum a collection of his own very carefully made sketches, bound in twenty-five volumes; they are, of course, mostly architectural, and their archæological value can hardly be over-estimated.

THE view of the beautiful tower and spire of one of Wren's most fortunate designs, St. Martin's, Ludgate, has been seriously injured, and the whole structure dwarfed, by the erection of a rather pretentious block of warehouses or offices on the east side, and immediately adjoining the church. The effect of this addition to Ludgate Hill is, especially when it is looked at from the east, extremely depressing, and when viewed from the west the new structure forms a graceless combination with St. Martin's Church and St. Paul's, whereas Wren designed a graceful composition of the latter two, and did not dream of the first.

M. HÉBERT has been elected to fill the place in the "Section de Peinture," Académie des Beaux-Arts, vacated on the death of M. Couder; Garnier has been nominated, in the place of M. Baltard, for the Section of Architecture; and M. Fortuny as Corresponding Member, in the place of M. Rosalès, deceased. The candidates named for the chair awarded to M. Hébert were MM. Bouguereau, Jalabert, Boulanger, Laugée, and Barrias.

M. CABANEL will contribute to the Salon of this year two portraits, the Duchess de Luynes and her children, and Madame De Lavalette; M. Gérôme, children, and Madame De Lavalette; M. Géröms, Molière and Corneille, 'Frederick II. playing on the Flute,' and 'L'Eminence Grise'; M. Bonnet, 'An Italian Mother and Child'; M. Monet, 'The Last Ball at the Opera'; M. Detaille, 'Entry of Cuirassiers to a Village'; M. O. F. Daubigny, 'Field of Poppies'; M. Munkacsy—whose tremendously ominous Souvenir de la Guerre our readen will remember as exhibited not long since in Lonwin rememoer as exhibited not long since in London—will send 'Les Rôdeurs de Nuit,' and 'Le Monte-de-Piété'; M. Pille, 'Un Pardon'; M. Daubigny, fils., 'The Paris Road,' and 'Toutain Farm, Honfleur'; M. Carolas Duran, 'Dans la Rosée.'

THE Exhibition of the Union Centrale des Beaux-Arts appliqués à l'Industrie will be opened from the 1st of August to the 1st of November next.

THE intended exhibition for the benefit of the exiles from Alsace and Lorraine, to be opened in the residence of the President of the Corps Législatif, will, it is stated, be of a very brilliant kind.
The Duc d'Aumale, Sir R. Wallace, M. Cottier,
M. André, the Princess Mathilde, and others, have promised to contribute objects from their respective collections. M. Clément de Ris has volunteered to take charge of the Catalogue.

THE Exhibition of the Fine-Arts Academy Berlin will be opened on the 6th of September and

closed on the 1st of November next.

THE artists engaged on the decorations of the new Opera-house, Paris, are redoubling their activity. These comprise MM. Lenepveu, P. activity. These comprise MM. Lenepveu, P. Baudry, Delaunay, and Barrias. The first is engaged on allegorical groups referring to the history of the lyric drama; the second has nearly finished his considerable task of executing ten oval panels, placed at the sides of doors, and containing infants holding instruments of music; also, ten large arches, besides figures of the Muses, and works on a ceiling. MM. Delaunay and Barrias have respectively painted 'The Triumph of Song' and 'The Triumph of Harmony'; the latter artist has likewise produced three panels representing heroic, pastoral, and amorous music, respectively. M. Boulanger has, likewise, illustrated the dance, warlike, bacchic, amorous, and

BOYAL PASS

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Michael FORMAN Sinico, Mi Organist, 10s. 6d.; a BRITIS H.R.H. t LAST CO o'clock. V and Mr. S. Lucas, We THE

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pastoral, in four large panels; and produced twenty medallions, comprising portraits of so many of the most celebrated danseuses of the Opera since its gration, each in her most successful costume. The series begins with Mdlle. Lafontaine (1681), and ends with Mdlle. Rosati (1854).

MUSIO

BOYAL ALBERT HALL CHORAL SOCIETY.
PASSION WEEK PERFORMANCES of SACRED MUSIC.

Monday and Saturday, HANDEL'S 'MESSIAH';

Tuesday,
MENDELSSOHN'S 'HYMN OF PRAISE,'
AND ROSSINI'S 'STABAT MATER';

Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, BACH'S 'PASSION' (St. Matthew).

Madame Lemmens-Sherrington, Madame Otto-Alvaleben, Madame Paigr; Mr. Sims Reeves, Mr. Cummings, Signor Urio, Signor Agnesi, Simor Campobello, &c. Organists, Dr. Stainer, Mr. Hoyte, and Mr. W.T. Best.

W. T. Best. Conductor, MR. BARNBY.
Deors Open at Seven o'clock, Commence at Eight each Evening.
Prices of admission to each Performance:—Boxes, Grand Tier, 34, 3a;
Lagria, 34, 2s; Upper Tier, 31, 5s; Stalls, 5s, and 4s; Balcouy, 3s;
Admission, 1s.
Tickets at Novello's, 1, Borners Street, and 35, Poultry; the usual
Agents; and at the Royal Albert Hall.

BACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY, Excter Hall.—Conductor, Sir Michael Costa.—The FORTY-SECOND PASSION-WEEK PER-FORMANCE of the MESSIAH, WEDNESDAY NEXT. Madame Sinco, Madame Trebelli-Bettini, Mr. Sintey, Orgalish, Mr. Santiey, Orgalish, Mr. Williac.—Tickets, 2s.; Reserved, 52.; Central Stalls, 18. 65, 4 6, Excter Ball.

BRITISH ORCHESTRAL SOCIETY.—By Special Desire.—Patron, B.E.H. the Duke of Edinburgh. Conductor, Mr. George Mount.—cidek. Vocalists, Madame Lemmens-Sherrington, Mr. Sims Revers, and Mr. Santley.—Stalls, 10s. 56; Tickets, Be, 3s., 8s., and 1s.; Stanley Leas, Weber & Co., 8s, New Bond Street; and usual Agents.

'THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD' AND 'ST. JOHN 'THE BAPTIST.'

MUSICIANS have almost exhausted the books of the Old Testament in seeking for subjects for oratorios. Commencing with Genesis, they have taken their texts from nearly every book in the Canon down to Malachi, and even the Apocrypha has been turned to account, while the writers or adapters of the words have found poetic imagery in the Psalms, the Proverbs, and the Lamentations, in the Fsaims, the Froveros, and the Lamentations, for solos, choruses, and chorales, to attach to the incidents selected for musical illustration. The New Testament has been more sparingly used, and the career of Christ has been but rarely indeed followed consecutively. Isolated incidents have chiefly interested the professors. Bach chose the Passion, Beethoven the Mount of Olives, Seabeld Carefel The literate the Carefel The literate the Professors. some the Passion, Beethoven the Mount of Unives, Spohr the Crucifixion. The lives of the Evange-lists have been covertly, so to speak, used to introduce in the background the image of the Saviour or to declare His mission. Mendelssohn, as we have often remarked, did not like the abstinence practised with regard to the introduction of the personal history of Christ, and no inducement could make him try his hand with a second apostle after he had set the story of St. Paul. He shrank from attempting St. Peter, and he came to the conclusion that Jens must be the leading character in any oratorio based on the records in the New Testament. He began his task, but only lived long enough to leave began his task, but only lived long enough to leave but a small instalment of the score. Sir Julius Benedict ventured, in 'St. Peter,' upon a companion work to 'St. Paul.' He displayed all the attributes of ripe scholarship, but the construction and the treatment of the book prevented the acceptance of 'St. Peter' as a permanent production in the oratorio repertory. At two Musical Festivals in the past year two English composers were afforded the opportunity of producing oratorios: the first was that by Mr. Sullivan, performed at Birmingham on the 27th of August, and the other was by Mr. G. A. Macarren, given at Bristol on the 23rd of October. The former soared high indeed, for under the title The former soared high indeed, for under the title of the 'Light of the World,' the Saviour's life, from the birth at Bethlehem to the scene at the espulchre, was treated; the latter selected for his predagonist St. John the Baptist, from the time of his preaching in the wilderness to the scene in the prison prior to execution by Herod's order. The two productions were received enthusi-atically by the audiences present at the first

performances, and yet in the musical circles the opinion was decidedly pronounced that the 'Light of the World' was a failure, and 'St. John the Baptist' was a genuine triumph. Even the most strenuous supporters of Mr. Sullivan suggested an entire revision of the score and the free curtailment of the numbers. The critics of Mr. Macfarren's production confined themselves to advising a modification of the roulades in a bravura air for the soprano and the use of the pruning knife in one choral number. Never, however, was there greater unanimity amongst the critical fraternity than in pronouncing 'St. John the Baptist' to be a masterpiece.

On Thursday, the 19th inst., in the Royal Albert Hall, in the presence of royalty, rank, and fashion, the 'Light of the World,' in its curtailed form, was presented, under the composer's own direction, was presented, under the composer's own direction, and on the following evening (the 20th inst.) in Exeter Hall, with a very full attendance of the customary supporters of the Sacred Harmonic Society (the professional element being conspicuous), 'St. John the Baptist' was produced, conducted by Sir Michael Costa. It is quite unnecessary to enter a second time into a detailed account of the two oratorios. In the Athenœum of the 30th of August (No. 2392) and of the 25th of October (No. 2400), will be found notices: in the first number of the 'Light of the World,' and under the second date of 'St. John the Baptist.' We do not see the slightest reason for modifying the adverse view we took of Mr. Sullivan's work, but we can repeat the favourable opinion we expressed of Mr. Macfarren's oratorio. We look upon the construction of the book of the 'Light of the World' as a fatal mistake. To present the Saviour from the Unitarian point of riew may, perhaps, have operated on the inventive faculty of the composer, but there must have been other reasons which combined to produce the lack of fancy and imagination that pervades the greater portion of the score, the depressingly dull nature of which was evidently felt by the London auditory. which was evidently feit by the London auditory. The monotonous and wearisome prolixity of the part of Christ not even the great vocal ability of Mr. Santley can relieve. Madame Lemmens had the soprano music, Madame Patey the contralto, and Mr. Cummings was the tenor, Miss Spiller and Mr. Maybrick assisting in the secondary parts; and, so far as principals were concerned, justice was done to the composer: not so, however, with the choralists and the instrumentalists, who were the choralists and the instrumentalists, who were vastly inferior to the splendid phalanx at Birmingham. It is to be hoped that in some future oratorio the composer may realize the expectations raised by his clever cantata 'The Prodigal Son.'

The performance of 'St. John the Baptist' in Exeter Hall will be long remembered, for it caused an exhibition of enthusiasm rarely witnessed within

the walls of the Hall during the execution of sacred works. The contrast between the apathy of the audience of the preceding night at the 'Light of the World,' and the sensation produced by 'St. John the Baptist,' was the more remarkable when we consider how much more powerful must be the call made on the sympathies of Christians by the presentation of the Saviour's career than by that of the Baptist; and the conclusion to be drawn from these opposite manifestations of public feeling is, that in the one score, the Man was more predominant than the God; and in the other, the God was more palpable than the Man. Mr. Macfar-God was more palpable than the Man. Mr. Macfarren has managed to present the Baptist as more than the Prophet, a really "burning and shining light," as if, indeed, he had the attributes of "a Prince and a Saviour." This elevated individuality given to the the Baptist constitutes the charm of the music, which, in Mr. Santley's hands, lacked neither grandeur nor feeling. The part of the Narrator is scarcely inferior in interest. How finely it was sung at Bristol by Madame Patey, cannot be forgotten; but her successor in London, Miss A. Sterling, failed to realize its dignified import: her declamation of the text was drawling, and her pronunciation of the words was imperfect. This weakness and tameness, this dryness and lack of weakness and tameness, this dryness and lack of expression, were the drawbacks in an otherwise

marvellous ensemble; for the sensual and secular numbers falling to Herod (Mr. Lloyd) and Salome marvenous ensemble; for the sensual and secular numbers falling to Herod (Mr. Lloyd) and Salome (Madame Lemmens) were well sung, and the choralists and instrumentalists were never under better command, and never exhibited more heartiness or zeal. No wonder the hearers, disregarding all restrictions, broke out into repeated bursts of applause from the overture down to the final chorus. Nor were the expressions of gratification the only signs of the vox populi. Three numbers were redemanded, the first encore being the chorus of sopranos and contraltos, "This is my beloved Son," in E flat, the orchestral symphony to which is a stroke of genius; the second being the finale of the first part, "My soul praise the Lord," in B flat (Croft's tune, 104th Psalm), the theme of which is so grandly sustained on the trombones while the masterly fugue is progressing; and, lastly, the unaccompanied quartet in D flat, sung by Mesdames Lemmens and Sterling, Messrs. Lloyd and Santley. Moreover, the blind composer was called for at the end of the first and second parts, and was vociferously cheered both by audience and ovehostra. There are a they make the restriction of the strand processing that the corders are a second parts, and was vociferously cheered both by audience and ovehostra. called for at the end of the first and second parts, and was vociferously cheered both by audience and orchestra. There are other numbers in the score which might be dwelt upon, — such as the dramatic duet between Herod and St. John, in which the individuality of each character is judiciously preserved; the bacchanal revel of Herod, so quaint and Oriental in colouring; and the cleverly conceived Dialogue (No. 17), in various tempi and key, in which Herod's remorseful assent to the execution is exacted by Salome and the nobles. Our attention is awakened from the fiery overture, reproduced at intervals: the interest hery overture, reproduced at intervals; the interest never flags, and there are moments of the strongest sensations. It seems to us that the verdict of Bristol, ratified by London, is of a nature to give vitality to this oratorio, which will gain an early re-hearing. Cavillers may allege that the composer has been strongly impregnated with recollections of Bach, of Mendelssohn, of Gounod, and of Wagner. We find no servile copying whatsoever, and musicians have the right to choose their own models for special situations. Mr. Macfarren has laboured consistently and coherently on his work of art; and there are fewer crudities than in any of art; and there are lewer crudities than in any of his previous productions. He has high and spiritual aspirations, hence the logical sequence of his numbers,—hence the elevation of the ideas,—hence the general and genial flow of melody. And he may congratulate himself on having had a kindred spirit to appreciate his task in Sir Michael Costa, who, in the conduct of the oratorio, has never shown greater tact than in securing such an impressive interpretation of 'St. John the Baptist.'

ANOTHER AMINA.

How many Aminas have crossed the ricketty plank thrown across the water-course of the mill, in the last scene of the 'Sonnambula,' since Pasta donned the dress of the Swiss maiden, at the Teatro Carcano in Milan, on the 6th of March, 1831, having Rubini as her Elvino? And those amateurs who retain a vivid remembrance of the two great artists, how many representatives of Amina and Elvino can they cite as having held their Amina and Elvino can they cite as having held their ground in the parts of the two lovers? The leading lyric theatres in Europe visited by operatic connoisseurs have brought out their Aminas; but, in a lengthy list, what a limited number of names dwell in the memory! Even Grisi in the prime of youth and beauty soon gave up the character, eclipsed by Malibran and Persiani. But, on the other hand, Madame Jenny Lind's delineation of Amina in German at Frankfort, in 1846, was the first notification we received of the genius of the Swedish Nightingale. Since her withdrawal from the stage there has been but one artist who has possessed any genuine pretensions to be regarded as the successor of Malibran and Persiani, and that one is Madame Adelina Patti. The appearance, one is Madame Adelina Patti. The appearance, therefore, on the Drury Lane boards of an Italian girl of nineteen, with a good stage face, fine eyes, and a profusion of raven black hair, which, when let down, descends almost to her feet, certainly realized the

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physical attributes of a Sonnambula and satisfied the eye. But when the ear was assailed with the tones of the voice a sensation of disappointment was felt. It must, however, at once be stated that the $d\ell bu$ tante was not only extremely nervous, but was labouring under a throat attack, which prevented her appearing on the 19th, and which ought to have caused another postponement until the young lady was in possession of her full powers. It is a pity that Signora Lodi was brought out on the 21st (Saturday), and it is equally to be regretted that a less trying part than Amina was not selected for her début. It is alleged in justification of this choice that she sang the character twenty-six times in Milan last autumn, but, perhaps, her voice may have been strained or overtaxed, especially as her timbre is a thin, wiry soprano, such as requires careful nursing in the youthful days of a singer. Her vocalization was very unequal. Now and then when she was singing mezza voce in cantabile passages the quality of the organ was sympathetic and even touching. Mdlle. Lodi phrases well, and some of her scales are neat and finished, but in forcing her upper notes, and she touched the D in all, there was shrillness. But we may fairly assume that her defects are not chronic, and may be ascribed to the causes which prevented her from having the voice implicitly under command. It was, however, delicious to hear the true accent of the sweet Tuscan from her Italian lips. As an actress, she proved to be the most amateurish Amina we have ever witnessed. She was so perfectly "comme il faut," so much the grande dame, indeed, that she ought to have been dressed in silken attire. We feel sure that Mdlle. Lodi has not been seen at her best, and that there is a future before her; but whether she has not been prematurely brought out, only her assumpbeen prematurely brought out, only her assumption of other characters can show; at all events the sympathy and support of her audience accompanied her performance. Signor Naudin made a passionate Elvino, his singing in the finale of the second act quite exciting the hearers. Signor Agnesi was Count Rodolpho.

GIROFLÉ-GIROFLA.

THE amateurs who follow the course of musical history in the Athenaum, will not be surprised to learn that M. Lecoco's new opera, produced last Saturday night at the Théâtre des Fantaisies Parisiennes (Alcazar), in Brussels, has met with signal success. We explained, in answer to those persons who would insist that the composer was following in the wake of M. Offenbach, that the 'Cent Vierges' and 'La Fille de Madame Angot' were not works in the accepted buffa sense, that is, burlesque and extravaganza, but that they were genuine comic operas of the really National School of France, as represented at the Opéra Comique (Salle Favart). We maintained that M. Lecocq was the legitimate successor of Adolphe Adam, was the legitimate successor of Adolphe Adam, and that he was approaching Auber nearer than any other musician. The new production, 'Giroflé-Girofla,' is as much a comic opera as Rossin's 'Italiana in Algeri,' and 'Il Turco in Italia,' or Cimarosa's 'Matrimonio Segreto' and, 'Astuzie Femminili.' The title would import that the plot refers to a game of French romps. Not so. The scene is in Spain, in the time of the Moors, and the authors of the libretto, MM. Leterrier and Van Loo, have concocted a series of situations, of imbroglio, of intrigue, and of fun, which all combine to make a "Comedy of Errors," owing to the resemblance to each other of Giroflé and Giroffa, who are twin-sisters, played by one artist, Mdlle. Luigini.

They are destined by their parents, Don Bolero d'Alcarazas (M. Jolly) and Aurore (Madame Delorme), to marry Marasquin (M. Mario-Widmer) and Mourzouk (M. Ginet); but Girofla is stolen by pirates, and the two bridegrooms are married to Giroflé. Out of this bridal arise the comic and bewildering incidents. At last the lost sister is restored and the ferocious Moor, Mourzouk, secures his right wife. The defect in the book is that there is a sameness in the situations of the second and third acts (the first act is unexceptionable); but

the authors were to revise the libretto after the first representation. In this opera M. Lecocq has taken higher ground than in any previous production. His music is not only melodious, but in conception, construction, and carrying out will satisfy the exigencies of the pedant, as well as secure the suffrages of the general public. As the opera is certain to be brought out here shortly, we must be excused for the present from going into the details liberally supplied by two correspondents in Brussels; but a Chorus of Pirates will certainly be the companion of the Chorus of Conspirators ('Fille de Madame Angot'), although its paternity can be traced to Meyerbeer's "Rataplan" in the 'Huguenots,' and also to the chorus of Inquisitors in the 'Africaine.' Those amateurs who are wedded to the Offenbach tunes, must not seek them in M. Lecce's 'Giroflé-Girofla.' It is curious that no adaptation of the 'Cent Vierges' has been produced here: the story is English, the incidents irresistibly droll, the music charming, and, with some modifications, it would be a success, as it has been in France, Belgium, and Germany.

CONCERTS.

At the Crystal Palace Saturday Concert, on the 21st inst., the 'Schicksals Lied' (Song of Fate), by Herr Brahms, for choir and orchestra, was performed for the first time, and made a favourable impression, as did also M. Gounod's Madrigal, from his opera 'La Colombe,' sung by Mr. Vernon Rigby. Madame Sinico was the other solo vocalist. The instrumental items were Beethoven's Symphony in B flat, No. 4, the Variations on Haydn's theme, by Herr Brahms, Mr. Sullivan's sparkling overture to his MS, opera, 'The Sapphire Necklace, and Herr Joachim's execution of Men-delssohn's Violin Concerto, and for his second solo, the Largo and Allegro from Bach's second Violin Concerto in c. With the benefit of Herr Manns, on the 25th of April, the eighteenth series of these

orchestral concerts will be ended.

At the Saturday Popular Concerts, on the 21st inst., there was the $d\ell but$ of a new vocalist in Madame Pezze (the wife of the violoncellist of that name). The lady is English, and has studied in Italy, and her singing of songs by Schumann and Signor Piatti showed a sound style and a soprano voice of good quality. The American vocalist, Madame Edna Hall, sang at the concert last Monday, the instrumental attraction of which was the Beethoven Kreutzer Sonata, played by Herr Halle and Herr Joachim. The sixteenth season will close next Monday with the benefit concert of Mr. Arthur Chappell, the Director.

The scheme of Mr. Henry Leslie's Choir Concert

on Tuesday contained several pieces by Walliser (1600), Pergolese, Bach, Corelli, Handel, Stradella, and Mendelssohn. Works by modern composers were the 'Ave Verum' of M. Gounod (encored); an were the 'Ave Verum' of M. Gounod (encored); an anthem, by Mr. Charles Horsley, 'I was glad,' for soprano solo (Miss K. Poyntz) and chorus; a new evening hymn by Herr Blumenthal, 'The Shadow of the Evening Hour'; Mr. Henry Leslie's new partsong, 'The Lullaby of Life' (one of his happiest conceptions), which was redemanded, as also his new part-song 'The Rainbow,' the words by the Rev. Dr. J. S. Monsell; and a 'Tantum Ergo,' for an eight-part choir, a new work by Mr. John F. Barnett. which was given twice. nett, which was given twice.

The programme of the opening concert of the Philharmonic Society (its sixty-second season), under the direction of Mr. Cusins, comprised Mendelssohn's Scotch Symphony (No. 3, in A minor); two overtures, one by Weber ("Der Freischütz"), and the other by Beethoven ("King Stanke"), and the other by Beethoven ("King Stephen'); and Handel's Concerto Grosso, No. 11, in A. Herr Ludwig Straus and M. Buziau having the Violino Concertino, 1 and 2, and Mr. Pettit the Violoncello Concertino. Herr Joachim selected for his solos Beethoven's Violin Concerto, and the Romance, in F, by the same composer. Mdlle. Otto-Alvsleben was the vocalist, and sang Men-delssohn's grand scena 'Infelice,' and Graun's air, 'Mi Paventi' from the opera 'Britannico,' a bra-vura in which Madame Pauline Viardot Garcia used to display her executive powers. The band

has been improved since last season, but is not yet has been improved since has season, but is not be up in quality to the Philharmonic standard of former days. Until the concerts are given on the off-nights of the two Italian Opera-houses, a first-class orchestra cannot be secured. The Handelian concerto, the eleventh of a series of twelve composed for the Lincoln's Inn Fields Theatre in 1739-40, is for the Lincoln's line Fields Lincoln's 1763-40, is dull, dry, and old-fashioned. The evening's sensition was for Herr Joachim's splendid playing. A new lady pianist, Madame Viguier, will make her début at the next concert (April 20).

her debut at the next concert (April 20).

Miss J. Lawrence, the pianist, at her evening concert on the 24th inst., played with ability in works by Beethoven, Mozart, Schumann, and Mendelssohn. The lady was assisted by Mr. Franklin Taylor, piano; Herr Straus, violin; and Signor Piatti, violoncello; with Miss A. Fairman and Mr. Wadmore as vocalists.

At a concert given by Herr Joachim in the Guildhall, Cambridge, in aid of the fund for raising a memorial to John Sebastian Bach at raising a memorial to John Sebastian Bach at Eisenach, he was assisted by Dr. Garrett (University organist), Mr. C. Villiers Stanford (organist of Trinity College), Mr. G. F. Cobb, the Rev. L. Borissow, and Messrs. McClintock and Murray, and by Mrs. Dunn. In the first part, Herr Joachim gave Bach's Violin Concerto, No. 1, in A South gave bachs violation concerts, No. 1, in a minor, with Dr. Garrett at the pianoforte, Bach's Suite in E major (Prelude, Loure, Minue, Gavotte), and the Chaconne in D minor. The first part also included the aria "Awake thou, O Sion," from the 'Christmas Oratorio,' sung by Sion," from the 'Christmas Orawin, Sion, Mrs. Dunn, with Herr Joachim as violin obbligate, second part was the Andante from Mendelssohn's Violin Concerto, Op. 64 (encored). Finally, three of the Hungarian Dances of Brahms (Nos. 1, 3, and 7), as arranged by Herr Joachim for violin and pianoforte, concluded the concert, and proved most attractive. The programme also included songs by Jensen and Sir W. S. Bennett, an air from Handel's 'Semele,' a duet for two pianos, Andante and Variations in E flat by Schumann, and a Sarabande in A minor by Ferdinand Hiller.
The latter was capitally played by Mr. Stanford.

Blusical Gossip.

THE Royal Italian Opera season will be commenced next Tuesday (March 31st) with the 'Traviata' for the début of Mdlle. Heilbron from Paris, and on Thursday will be the first appearance of Mdlle. Marimon in Ricci's 'Crispino e Comare' Mr. Gye's position as Régisseur of the Italian Opera-houses at St. Petersburg and Moscow may enable him to make an attempt to cut down the exorbitant and ruinous salaries absorbed by a couple of prime donne; but an Impresario in Russia is under the sway of a General, a Court Intendant, who is in turn the representative of an Imperial amateur. Mr. Gye will not be able to found an imperium in imperio, but inasmuch as the Italian Opera operatic market is at a discount, if Russia reduced the absurd salaries of artists, there would be then capital chances for the production of novelties.

MDLLE. DE BELOCCA, the Russian contralto, who has been so successful at the Théâtre Italien in Paris, has been engaged for the Royal Italian Paris, has been engaged for the Royal Italian positions Opera, and will make her début as Rosina, in 'Il probabili Barbiere,' at Covent Garden, on the 14th of April, and will also appear in 'La Cenerentola,' as Cherubino in the 'Nozze di Figaro,' and Arsace in 'Semiramide,' with Madame Adelina Patti as the it is a tr Queen, a part which that lady has enacted in right to

THE second appearance of Mdlle. Lodi has been prudently postponed until she has quite recovered from her throat attack. Mdlle. Alwina Valleria so succe trom her throat attack. Mdlle. Alwina Vallera (the American prima donna) was announced to appear on Thursday as Lucia, and this evening (Saturday) 'Fidelio' is promised for the debut of the German basso, Herr Conrad Behrens; Signer Agnesi will be Don Pizarro; and Mdlle. Tietjens, Leonora (Fidelio). 'Semiramide' will be repeated next Tuesday. next Tuesday.

Passion Week will be observed at Exeter Hal

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on Wednesday, by a performance of the 'Messiah by the Sacred Harmonic Society, the oratorio conducted by Sir Michael Costa; and the same work will be given on Monday and Saturday next at the Royal Albert Hall, under Mr. Barnby's direction; on Wednesday, Thursday, and Good Friday, Bach's 'Passion' will be executed by the ame choral association; and next Tuesday the 'Lobgesang' and 'Stabat Mater.' M. Gounod's the Choir concept will be on the 4th of April next Choir concert will be on the 4th of April.

THE season of the Sacred Harmonic Society will close on Friday, the 1st of May, with the revival of Sir Michael Costa's oratorio, 'Naaman,' the solo parts to be sustained by Madame Otto-Alvsleben, Mrs. Suter, Madame Patey, Messrs. Vernon Rigby, Montem Smith, and Santley. On the 10th of April, Handel's 'Judas Maccabeus' will be performed.

THE seventh annual concert of the University Musical Society in Edinburgh, conducted by Prof. Oakeley, evidenced the artistic progress of the students, 200 in number, who formed the choir, which has no female voices, the ladies not being included in the University curriculum. There was an effective orchestra, composed of local and other players from London, Manchester, &c.

The 135th anniversary festival of the Royal Society of Musicians will be celebrated on the 27th of April, the Prince of Wales in the chair. The annual performance of the 'Messiah,' in aid of the institution of which Handel was so liberal a benefactor, will take place on the 8th of May.

DRAMA

THE WEEK.

OFENING OF THE CRITERION THEATER.—'An American Lady,'a Comedy, in Three Acts. By H. J. Byron. 'Topsey-turnydom,'an Extrawaganza. By W. S. Gilbert. HAYMARKET.—'Queen Mab,'a Comedy, in Three Acts. By G. W. Godfrey. YAUDEVILLE.—'Petticoat Government,' and 'London Asserance'.

So numerous have been of late the additions to places of entertainment in London that the opening of a new theatre ceases to be a matter of special interest to many besides those personally concerned with the house and its fortunes. One more was added to the lengthening list on Saturday last, when the Criterion Theatre was first opened for public performances. The house forms a portion of the building in Piccadilly known as the Criterion. It is a pretty and tastefully designed edifice, of the dimensions of the Opéra Comique, or thereabouts. The one drawback, its position below the level of the street, is ccessfully combated so far as ventilation is oncerned, and the length of the corridors and lobbies is likely to be forgotten by those who tice the admirable use that has been made f ceramic ware as a means of decoration.

of artists, r the pro-three-act comedy by Mr. Byron, and an tralto, who atravaganza by Mr. Gilbert. 'An American Italien in Lady' is like all Mr. Byron's recent com-Italian in lady' is like all Mr. Byron's recent com-ral Italian positions, a mass of inconsistencies and im-ina, in 'Il probabilities galvanized into life by its author's h of April, lower of dialogue. As art, it is indefensible; Arsace in attempt to interest and amuse the public, atti as the it is a triumph. The question how far it is presented in both to the down by caroons abilities. nacted in light to tie down by canons, shifting, un-collected, and variously interpreted, an author ii has been so successful as Mr. Byron in enlivening an recovered addience, and bringing smiles or laughter to the lips of his severest censors, is not easy connect to ounced to o answer. Few of us have the heart wholly is evening he début of condemn that which contributes to our ns; Signor mertainment. It is only while his characters le. Tietens, re on the stage, however, and the infectious be repeated aughter of those around is ringing in the ears, ne can forget how quietly the author ignores Exeter Hall

all rules. Retrospection shows us that the entertaining world, in the midst of which Mr. Byron places us, has no existence in fact, and is as unreal as the fairy domains his coadjutor in the production of the night's entertainment is accustomed to depict. 'Topseyturveydom' would be, at least, equally as appropriate a title for Mr. Byron's play as for Mr. Gilbert's. That world is surely topsy-turvy wherein all the wit and talent are in the mouth of fools, where a gentleman proves his breeding by insolence to strangers, and makes love by means of snarling, where lawyers are given to sentiment and baronets to swindling, where everybody jumps at once at the wrong con-clusion, and where the only use of a person saying one thing appears to be to make some-

body else believe another.

Mr. Byron has sought to combat that English form of "chauvinisme" which asserts itself in the condemnation of all things American. He brings to England an American woman of a pronounced type, and betroths her to a young English aristocrat of average emptiness of head. Each, as a means of proving agreeable, points out the deficiencies of the other. A nasal accent is arrayed against an aristocratic mispronunciation of letters, and the caprices of American phrase-ology are shown to be equalled by the eccentricities of English slang. Meanwhile extravagance is proved to concern externals only, and a good heart is shown to exist in each case. Harold Trivass is a fine fellow in spite of his sleepy airs, his affectations, and his rudeness of speech. He believes with so touching a confidence in his father, who is, in fact, a disreputable old scoundrel, that it is felt a revelation of the truth will be almost fatal to him. So brave and self-denying is, moreover, the restless, loud-voiced American, that she breaks off her engagement to the man she loves when she finds persistence in it will bring upon him the discovery of his father's baseness. British and American honour and goodness are thus vindicated, and the fact no one in his sane mind ever doubted, that Nature has produced such a thing as an American lady, is triumphantly established. With this, the principal motive of the piece, is involved the extrication by the heroine of her brother from the difficulties into which he has fallen through undertaking the charge of a business for which he is unqualified. The treatment of the story is better than the story itself, though the manner in which one person, in order to make room for another, goes off the one scene in front of which the action passes is excessively clumsy. When will dramatists adopt so simple an expedient as causing a father to send by a servant for the son he wishes to see, instead of waiting with the conviction that he will always come at the moment when he is required? The dialogue is singularly clever, bright, and mirth-moving, — everything it should be, except characteristic. There is not a good thing that might not be said by any one of the characters, and the amusement springs frequently from a verbal quibble rather than from an absolute association of ideas. How ludicrous it is, the unbroken laughter of the audience attests. Mr. Byron plays the young "Britisher" with a stolid quietude that is effective, and Mrs. John Wood gives a broad and telling presentation of his American

mate. Mr. Clarke causes much laughter as a rather lackadaisical attorney. Other parts are competently sustained by Miss Hughes, Miss Rignold, Mr. Barnes, and Mr. Fisher.

In 'Topseyturveydom' Mr. Gilbert depicts a world wherein everything is the reverse of what it is in this. Byron irreverently makes St. Peter, in his functions of gate keeper, complain-

It seems the custom here to overthrow Whatever has been wisely done below.

A similar process is carried on in the kingdom of Topseyturveydom. Men are exalted for, their follies, and degraded for their virtues; they walk on ceilings, and look up to floors they show dislike when they wish to please, and use courteous expressions when they seek to be insolent. This is another form of an idea Mr. Gilbert has often worked, but seldom with less skill than in the present instance. Some of the dialogue is effective, and some clever, but rather remote satire upon human affairs is conveyed. To follow exactly, however, the proceedings of his characters is an exercise rather than an amusement, and the result is disagreeable when the machinery breaks down, as under such circumstances it frequently does. Some attractive music by Mr. Cellier had been contributed to this trifle. A song by Miss Fanny Holland, a young actress from the Gallery of Illustration, was well sung and warmly encored.

Queen Mab' portrays the adventures of a young lady, who is, apparently, extracted from a novel by "Ouidà," and placed in the midst of circumstances and conditions borrowed from the plays of Mr. Robertson. It is, we are informed, a first work. A tendency to imita-tion is not unnatural on the part of an untried writer. Mr. Godfrey is more successful, however, in copying the vices of his predecessors than their merits. His language has neither playfulness nor wit, and the tone of conversation adopted by his characters and the social habits in which they indulge are so unlike anything in real life as almost to overpass the bounds of caricature. His heroine, a Bohemian as she avows herself, lives with her uncle, a fifth-rate actor, teaches herself to paint like a Rosa Bonheur, and employs the time not devoted to her profession in cooking her uncle's meals and insulting her lovers The laws of Bohemia are not very definite, nor very well understood. There is, however, no world in which a young lady with any pretence to selfrespect will allow a young officer to enter without knock or any form of announcement, bid him sit down and smoke, and then subject him to a running commentary com-posed of equal degrees of banter and insult. There is no world, we trust, in which a gentleman will speak of a woman as a vagabond whom he has the minute before asked to be his wife, or in which a baronet will accept for his eldest son a wife who comes to him on the arm of a suspicious acquaintance, and with a purse bulging with gains from the gaming-table. Mr. Godfrey has dramatic perception, and brings about with some ingenuity one or two good situations. If he is to succeed as a dramatist, however, he must study nature rather than the works of his predecessors, and must cease to present as types of modern life men who never open their mouths to women or to one another except to say something that merits a horsewhipping, and women whose

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language goes, as far as anything can go, to justify the treatment they receive from men. It is not Englishmen alone in Mr. Godfrey's play who are misrepresented; a foreign nobleman of highest rank addresses a lady in terms he would not use to anything that had ever worn a petticoat. Mr. Godfrey had better take in time this warning. He has some power of dialogue and some capacity for the arrangement of incidents, and may yet have success in a second attempt. Not all the talent of Mr. and Mrs. Kendal, Mr. Chippendale, Mr. Buckstone, and Mr. Howe could compensate for the defects to which we refer, and the play, in spite of the favourable reception accorded it the first night, is a mistake and a failure.

Mr. W. Farren has appeared at the Vaudeville in another of those parts in which he seeks, with creditable success, to revive recollections of his father. His representation of Hectic, a weak-minded hypochondriac, in Mr. Dance's farce of 'Petticoat Government,' is a ripe and sustained performance. 'London Assurance' has been revived at the same theatre, with a cast not widely dissimilar from that with which it was recently played.

Bramatic Godsip.

A FAIR number of changes may be expected at Easter or shortly after. Mr. Charles Reade will produce, at Astley's, his drama of 'It is Never Too Late to Mend,' two acts of which have been, to a great extent, re-written. Mr. Toole, Mr. Arthur Cecil, and Mr. Brough will appear at the Globe, in a comedy by Mr. Albery. Another comedy from the same pen, entitled 'Pride,' will be given at the Vaudeville. French performances will commence at the Princess's. 'The School' of Caralla' will be given at the Prince of will commence at the Princess's. The School for Scandal' will be given at the Prince of Wales's; and 'The Clandestine Marriage,' as already announced in our columns, at the Gaiety.

Mr. John Harris, late lessee of the Theatre Royal, Dublin, was drowned a few days ago in the sea near Kingstown. Mr. Harris had but recently, we understand, disposed of his interest

in the theatre. 'Esther' has been given at the Théâtre Français, with Mdlle. Favart as Esther, M. Maubant as Mardochée, and M. Laroche as Assuérus. 'Le Sphinx' of M. Octave Feuillet has

also been performed.

The Odéon is now occupied with 'La Jeunesse de Louis XIV.,' a prose comedy, in five acts, of Dumas, altered and re-arranged by his son. This Dumas, attered and re-arranged by his son. This piece was accepted twenty years ago by the Comédie Française, suppressed by the censure, and produced at the Théâtre du Vaudeville Brussels. It is principally occupied with the ambition of Cardinal Mazarin, whose niece, Marie de Mancini, has obtained a hold on the affections of the young king. For a moment the Cardinal dreams of uniting by marriage the fortunes of his house to those of his royal master. He sees after a time the hopelessness of such a scheme, and resigns himself to the union of Louis the Fourteenth with Marie-Thérèse. The parting between the King and Marie de Mancini, which inspired Racine to write his 'Bérénice,' brings the piece to a conclusion. The characters are admirably played throughout. The Mazarin of M. Lafontaine is a fine creation, and the Marie of Mdlle. Hélène Petit, the Molière of M. Porel, and the Louis XIV. of M. Masset, are all highly creditable performances,

LE PORTEUR DU NUMÉRO 15' has been revived at the Ambigu-Comique, with M. Frédérick Lemaître in his well-known part of Feuillautin.

To Correspondents.—T. M.—E. W.—H. T.—G. I. B.—B. J. E.—B. S. M.—T. C. F.—received.
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